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WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 22, 1875.

France and Mexico.

The President to-day authorized a contradiction of the cable dispatches from Paris to the effect that Mr. Washburne had been directed to solicit the French Government to renew diplomatic relations with Mexico. The President has always been anxious to shape the foreign policy of his administration so as to promote harmony among the nations, and therefore our diplomatic representatives have always been instructed to use their good offices when expedient; but it is considered that it would be rather a delicate matter for the United States to interfere between France and Mexico, as the former power cannot have forgotten the determined attitude of the United States in opposition to its designs in the Mexican Republic. France also must have a keen remembrance of the fact that, after the close of our war, Sheridan, with his victorious troopers, was under waiting orders to proceed to Mexico if the French had not speedily evacuated that country. The President thinks that, under all the circumstances, it is for France itself to inaugurate any movement looking to the restoration of its diplomatic relations with Mexico.

Delano Not Retiring.

The President stated to-day most positively that he had not requested the resignation of either Attorney General Williams or Secretary Delano. He remarked that, some time last autumn, Mr. Delano had breathed to him the subject of his withdrawal from the Cabinet on account of his private business in Ohio requiring more of his time and attention. He inquired of the President whether it would best suit his convenience to receive the resignation during the session of Congress or after the adjournment. The President replied that he did not wish to receive it at all, and that Mr. Delano would remain in the Cabinet, and expressed to him at the time his approval of his official course, and his confidence in him. Since then he has heard nothing from Mr. Delano on the subject, and has said nothing to him.

Resignation of Attorney General Williams.

The President also spoke in high terms of Attorney General Williams, who, he said, was one of the most efficient Cabinet officers ever serving under his administration. He expressed the wish that Mr. Williams might not retire from the Cabinet. As yet Mr. Williams had not communicated anything of his intentions on this subject to the President. Subsequent to this conversation, Attorney General Williams called upon the President and handed to him his resignation, to take effect May 15. The President expressed his regret to Mr. Williams, and assured him of his best wishes for the future. The reasons for Williams' resignation were stated in these dispatches last night. Among the names mentioned for the succession are ex-Senator Carpenter, Secretary Bristow, Edwards Pierrepont and E. W. Stoughton.

Perquisites of Collectors.

The Special Treasury agents have reported to the department that the customs officers on the Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers are deriving a large revenue from the privilege accorded them by law of selling blank manifests and clearances. The Collector at Chicago receives and pockets over seventeen thousand dollars yearly from this source, and the Collector of the comparatively insignificant port of Port Huron makes twelve thousand dollars—a sum equal to the salary allowed to the Collector of New York. The law allows a fee of ten cents for each blank sold, but it is understood that twenty-five cents is generally exacted. If the department cannot find authority under the law to remedy this imposition, the subject will be brought to the attention of Congress.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1875.

Who Shall Succeed Williams?

Speculations as to the probable successor of Attorney General Williams in the Cabinet continue to be freely made to-day. It has been supposed by some that the President will now give Pennsylvania a representation in his Cabinet, in order to strengthen the party in that State in the approaching campaign, but the President, in conversation to-day on this subject, remarked that he entertained no such idea. He said that ex-Senator Scott would make a very acceptable Cabinet officer, but owing to the different combinations existing in the Republican party in Pennsylvania, it was not likely that Mr. Scott or any other prominent man affiliated with one or the other of these combinations could, as a member of the Cabinet, advance the party interests in that State, either in a local or national point of view. The President also stated that, in the appointment of his Cabinet officers, he had not regarded it as incumbent upon him to consult Political or Official interests of sections or States. The members of the Cabinet being executive officers and meeting the President in almost daily personal intercourse, he was guided by his own views in their selection. He instanced the case of Mr. Borie, of Pennsylvania, who was his first Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Borie had never mixed in politics and had been selected on personal considerations entirely.

Arrival of Papal Envoys.

The Papal envoys, who visited the capital to-day from Baltimore, were in quite a dilemma as to the proper courtesies due to the President of the United States, in view of the absence of a diplomatic representative of the Roman Pontiff, and the antagonistic relations now existing between his Holiness and the King of Italy. They could not be presented by Count Corti, the representative of the King of Italy, as that diplomatic functionary was embraced in the Pope's bull of excommunication. This afternoon the envoys, with their suite, drove to the Presidential mansion and for some time engaged in quite a discussion of the proprieties under the circumstances. It was finally concluded to leave their card, Monsignor Roncetti remarked to-day: "Washington is the most beautiful city in the world. I have been here 48 hours; six weeks would not do the city justice." Count Marefoschi, who is a skilled architect and has the supervision of church plans submitted for approval, says he estates that the capitol, as far as his knowledge goes, is the finest building in the world.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 25, 1875.

Secretary Delano Sticks.

Secretary Delano states, this evening, that he has for the present reconsidered his determination to retire from the Cabinet. He says that the accusations against him are not only utterly unfounded, but are the result of a conspiracy against his personal and official character, and he proposes to see what it means and to punish the leaders in it. Under these circumstances, it is possible that the Secretary will not feel disposed to withdraw for some weeks, and if the present unfounded statements are continued, he will not withdraw at all.

The President reiterates his confidence in Secretary Delano, and expresses the hope that he will remain in the Cabinet. It is somewhat remarkable that, despite the emphatic denials of the statements made respecting Secretary Delano and Attorney General Williams, the inventors of these stories persist in their reassertion.

Rest From Louisiana Trouble.

The adjournment of the Louisiana Legislature *sine die* occasions relief, as it is believed that no more interposition from Washington in Louisiana affairs will be demanded.

The Peru Mission—Return of Governor Thomas—Appointment of Mr. Gibbs.

Mr. Richard Gibbs, the new Minister to Peru, will start for his post in a few days. The President regretted very much the resignation of ex-Governor Thomas, of Maryland, for whom he expresses the warmest regard and consideration, and in conversation to-day he spoke very highly of his services during the war. When Governor Thomas came back to the United States his journey was prompted by a newspaper report that the President had determined to remove him. On his arrival in Washington he went at once to the White House and was much surprised to find that the President not only had no idea of removing him, but had never seen the newspaper article. The President said to-day that he would have been very much gratified had overnor Thomas remained at Lima during his entire administration. Governor Thomas' letter of resignation was received by the President several months in advance of the immediate appointment of his successor so that he could leave for home on the first of this month. Governor Thomas stated that the cause of his resignation was his advancing years and failing health.

Customs Receipts.

The custom receipts for the week ending April 17, are as follows: New York, $2,228,027 95; Boston, $382,264 76; Philadelphia, $120,616 ; New Orleans, for week ending April 1, $52,121 29.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 26, 1875.

Special Cabinet Meeting.

The President called a special meeting of the Cabinet to-day, Secretaries Fish, Belknap and Bcson and Postmaster General Jewell being present. Secretary Delano was engaged in an important hearing in his Department, so that his absence has no significance. The Attorney General was also otherwise engaged, and Secretary Bristow was out of the city. The meeting, it is learned, had in part reference to the selection of a successor to Mr. Williams, and several names, it is understood, were considered in that connection, but at the hour of adjournment the President had not fully determined to whom the appointment should be given. A number of persons have been mentioned, each as the probable future legal adviser to the President; but as the latter has not selected the person, all mention of names at present is idle speculation. It is possible that the selection will be made at the regular Cabinet meeting to-morrow, when the office will be formally tendered.

The Border Raids.

The renewed depredations of Mexicans on the borders was also considered. The Postmaster General to-day received a dispatch confirming the attack on the postoffice at Carrizo, which was laid before the Cabinet. The frequency of these marauding expeditions has for some time attracted the attention of the Government. It is now proposed to take active measures, not only to suppress these outrages, but to summarily punish the offenders. The Mexican Government will also be reminded of these breaches of the peace on the border.

Postal Intelligence.

The following is a complete list of postmasters appointed and postal changes made in the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, for the week ending April 24, 1875:

PENNSYLVANIA.

Postmasters Appointed—John M. Ross, Lawrence, Washington county, *vice* D. G. Moore, resigned; William E. Stief, Johnsburg, Somerset county, *vice* H. Matty, resigned; William Adams, Fairchance, Lycoming county, *vice* J. O. Bullock, resigned; Amandus Stifflet, Blue Mountain, Northampton county, *vice* C. H. Stifflet, resigned; Lewis Sailor, Bedminster, Bucks county, *vice* C. Fretz, resigned; S. F. Ackley, Spring Hill, Bradford county, *vice* M. Montgomery, resigned; Daniel Grim, Olives, Armstrong county, *vice* T. B. Lollis, resigned; Jas. K. Scott, Crow's Mill, Greene county, *vice* W. S. Drake, resigned; Miss Electa S. Perry, Wesleyville, Erie county, *vice* M. M. Moore, resigned; Jas. H. Hyett, McWilliamstown, Chester county, *vice* J. Sommers, resigned; John J. Uncster, Strongstown, Indiana county, *vice* Garland A. Rawdon, resigned.

WEST VIRGINIA.

tabli shments—Morton Grove, Morgan county, route 4,269; Isaiah Speelman, postmaster.

Discontinuances—Valley Falls, Marion county; papers to Wuzum. New Geneva, Jackson county; papers to Jackson Court House. Oakland, Morgan county; papers to Unger's store. Laurel Junction, Kitchie county, route 4,189; James Murray, postmaster.

Postmasters Appointed—Mrs. H. A. Zimbra, Grantsville, Calhoun county *vice* Jacob Clammer, resigned; Jacob Walker, Caney, Wyoming county, *vice* William Stewart, resigned.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1875.

DELANO'S INTEGRITY VOUCHED FOR BY ALL HIS BUREAU OFFICERS.

The Cabinet session to-day was attended by all the members, and the chief bureau officers of the Interior Department, headed by Assistant Secretary Cowan, called on the President previous to the meeting of the Cabinet, for the purpose of refuting the statements that Secretary Delano had been in the habit of absenting himself from the decision of cases. Each bureau officer substantially asserted that in no instance had Mr. Delano interfered with them in public business, and that no decisions ever made by any of them had been overruled by the Secretary without full consultation and mature deliberation. The President, in reply, remarked that while he was glad to meet them personally, their visit and explanations were entirely unnecessary, as he had never had the utmost confidence in Secretary Delano, and his confidence in his integrity and consistent official deportment remaind unimpaired.

MORE POSTAL FRAUDS DISCOVERED.

The investigation of the mail contract frauds is still in progress by the Postmaster General and Second Assistant Postmaster General Tyner, who this morning discovered a fraudulent bid among those for mail routes in Louisiana. About six clerks have already been discharged for complicity in the frauds, and it is understood that at least a dozen more are implicated. Judge Tyner states that he is determined to make a thorough investigation if it takes all summer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 26, 1875.

SECRETARY DELANO

to-day freely says that he believes the recent newspaper charges affecting his official conduct are the result of an atrocious conspiracy to drive him from the Cabinet. He is in receipt of numerous letters from friends in various sections of the country advising him to resign at once, but he says that he was intimately acquainted with Lamb, the murdered man. At this point Mr. Erwin, counsel for the defense, asked the witness to state what was the character of Lamb as to peace and peaceable or the reverse. This was objected to by the State. General Gorman, associate counsel for the defense, interrupted Mr. Erwin and stated that what he was arguing was not the law, and if he (Erwin) took that view of the law he (Gorman) should very much prefer he should not enunciate it till this case was over. The Court said: "You can settle this among yourselves." [Laughter.] After a half hour's skirmishing, the objection was sustained.

The Wheeling Nail Strike.

WHEELING, April 25.—At a meeting of nail feeders, yesterday, it was decided that all the feeders in the different mills of this city should strike for three-fifths and maintain the strike until the price demanded was granted and all feeders taken back to their position. The haipers' strike is also general.

DISASTER AT NEW ORLEANS.

Steamers John Kyle, Exporter and Bodmann Burnt.

AN EXCURSION PARTY ON ONE OF THE BOATS.

Uncertain Fate of Many on Board.

Twenty to One Hundred Lives Lost.

Mrs. John A. Musgrave, of Pittsburgh, Among the Lost.

NEW ORLEANS, April 23.—About 4 P. M. a fire broke out in the blacksmith shop of the steamboat John Kyle, which was lying at the foot of Poydras street. The Kyle lay between the Leslie Taylor below and the Exporter above. The Bodmann lay above and next to the Exporter. Soon after the alarm was given, the tug-boat Ella Wood came up and commenced throwing water on to the burning vessel, but without effect. Captain Hutchinson, of the Kyle, was standing on the front deck when the fire broke out. He promptly notified all on board to leave, as it was apparent from the first that the boat could not be saved. Captain Hutchinson thinks every one on the Kyle was saved. Wm. Brown, chief clerk, who opened the safe and took out the money and papers, was the last to leave the Kyle, which had in the meantime been set adrift. In escaping, he was enveloped in the flames and severely, if not dangerously, burned over the face and hands. His eyelashes and mustache were singed off. He, however, jumped into the water and swam ashore, and was at once taken to a hotel, where he was attended to by a physician.

FLAMES COMMUNICATED TO THE EXPORTER AND BODMANN.

Captain Hutchinson says the cabin of the Kyle was enveloped in flames in less than two minutes from the time the first alarm was given. When she was cut loose the eddy drifted her up stream, and those on shore, seeing the danger, cast off the hawsers by which the Exporter and Bodmann were tied up. This act proved disastrous. The Kyle drifted against the Exporter and Bodmann and all three boats drifted into the levee. So rapid was the progress of the flames, that the Exporter took fire the moment the Kyle touched her. The people on board the Exporter, having no other recourse, fled on to the Bodmann. This boat, in less than a minute after the Exporter, also caught fire and the three burning vessels drifted together into the stream, where they were soon burned to the water's edge.

LOSS OF LIFE.

Many persons who had gone on to the Exporter and Bodmann as spectators, were on board when the steamers drifted into the stream, and had to jump overboard. Some of them were rescued, but a larger number are believed to have been lost. The number lost is estimated at from twenty to one hundred. The commander of the United States Steamer Kansas promptly sent out his boats, one of which rescued thirteen persons The jobbing tugboat made no effort to rescue those on the burning boats. There was an excursion party from Cincinnati or Pittsburgh, many of whom, it is feared, were lost. The Bodmann arrived this morning, and had escaped most of her cargo. The Exporter was to leave this evening and had about 400 tons of freight on board, all of which was lost. Among the lost is the daughter of Captain Rees, of the Exporter. Captain Shinkle, of the Bodmann, was much burned about the face and hands. A son of Captain Shinkle is reported among the lost.

The Exporter was owned by James Rees, Sr., of Pittsburgh, and valued at $45,000. The John Kyle was owned by William Kyle and Sons, and W. F. Davidson, and valued at $60,000. The Charles Bodmann was owned by Captain O. P. Shinkle and others, of Cincinnati, and valued at $75,000. All are supposed to be insured in Western offices.

On board the Exporter was Capt. Rees, his two grandchildren, a grandson of his family and a number of friends from that city, were here on a pleasure excursion. The ladies of the party were all ashore, except Mrs. Rees and one of the other lady. Mrs. Rees and the other lady were saved, but the daughter was drowned. It is impossible to-night to give the names of passengers lost. The burning of the Exporter and Bodmann were towed across the river to Coyle's coal yard, while the Kyle floated down a couple of miles and sunk.

DAUGHTER OF CAPTAIN JAMES REES LOST.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 23, 1875.

The steamers Exporter, Charles Bodmann and John Kyle were burned to-day, and are a total loss. The fire originated in the John Kyle. Mrs. John A. Musgrave, daughter of Captain James Rees, is lost. The rest are all safe on the Exporter.

NEW ORLEANS, April 24.—The following persons were lost by the burning of the Exporter, Bodmann and Kyle yesterday:

Exporter—Mrs. Musgrave, daughter of Captain Rees; Ellen raves, chambermaid; John Mahoney, head cook; Julius Lott, cabin boy; Bill Johnson, fireman.

Bodmann—Joseph Case, of Newport, Kentucky, first engineer; John Ferrard, of Newport, Kentucky, second engineer; Alfred Gordon, barber, of Cincinnati; Mrs. Bartley and Mrs. Brent, of New Richmond, Ohio, chambermaids; Bill Akers, of Cincinnati, deck hand; James Thomas, cook; Crutchfield, Benjamin Caplan, Tom Robinson, Caleb Charles and Bill Sakers, all roustabouts; Andy Edwards and George Edwards, of Cincinnati, firemen.

Mr. Grenlaw, of Evansville, Indiana, on his way from Texas; daughter of Dr. Brasher, aged fourteen, of Florence, Kentucky; J. H. Ellison, of Richmond, Indiana, reported of the Kyle.

Many of the rescued were slightly, and some severely burned, but none dangerously except Mr. Browne, clerk of the Kyle, who is doing well to-day. The steamboatmen and passengers on the burned steamers lost their baggage, clothing, &c.

THE INSURANCE.

MEMPHIS, April 24.—The insurance of Memphis companies on the cargoes of the steamboats burned at New Orleans is not so heavy as at first believed. It is now thought that it will not exceed $10,000, of which the Hernando company had about $6,000. The remainder was divided among several companies.

NEW ORLEANS, April 26.—No bodies of victims of the steamboat disaster have been recovered, though efforts are being made by firing cannons.

The United States Steamboat Inspectors are investigating the conduct of the tugs during the steamboat conflagration of Friday last.

The civil courts adjourned to-day, out of respect to Fergus Fuselier, a prominent member of the bar, who fell dead this morning of apoplexy.

The Louisiana Levee Company et al., have brought a suit against Thomas A. Scott and H. S. McComb for $282,000, for violation of contract. It is charged that Scott and McComb agreed to furnish the capital necessary to enable the company at all times to perform its contract with the State, and failed to do so.

THE CHEYENNES.

Lieutenant Henley Has a Brush with a small Party and Kills Twenty-seven.

CHICAGO, April 24.—The following dispatch from Monument, Kansas, bearing this date, has been received at the military headquarters to-day:

"Attacked at daylight, yesterday morning, on North Fork of Sapper creek, by a party of sixty Cheyennes, which I believe to be some of those that have been at the Agency. Cut off twenty-seven from their ponies and demanded their surrender. The demand was answered by a volley. After a desperate resistance, they were all killed. Nineteen warriors, including two chiefs and a medicine man, were among the dead. Captured 125 ponies. The remainder of the Indians escaped with a portion of their stock. I burned their camp, consisting of twelve lodges, and all their effects. Sergeant Papier and private Tieves, of my command, were killed.

[Signed] "AUSTIN HENLEY,
"Lieut. Sixth Cavalry."

HARRISBURG.

The Treasury Investigating Committee Call on the Treasurer—A Difference of Opinion at the Outset.

HARRISBURG, April 22.—The sub-committee of the committee of the House of Representatives to investigate the State Treasury met at the office of the State Treasurer to-day, at three o'clock, and were informed by State Treasurer Mackey that, as members of the Legislature, they were at liberty to make an investigation to satisfy themselves and the public as to the integrity of the Treasury, on the condition that if they found the Treasury intact they would give him a certificate to that effect. He denied their right as a committee, and would not allow any outside party, designated by the committee, to make an examination. The Chairman said they could only act as a committee, and they withdrew for consultation.

TEXAS.

Mexican Authorities Disposed to Punish the Frontier Raiders—Orders from Escobedo on the Subject.

GALVESTON, April 22.—The *News'* special from Corpus Christi, Texas, says: The following letter from a highly respectable Mexican, of Texas, proves that if the proper course is adopted by our Government eight of the Mexicans who raided upon the country can be secured and brought to justice:

LOREDO, Texas, April 14.

Mr. Wm. Heeden, Corpus Christi, Texas.

DEAR SIR: The Mexican General Nicanor Zapala, who has just arrived at Loredo, Mexico, and whom I have had the pleasure of visiting this morning, ardently desires to punish the bandits who are committing crimes on this part of the frontier. He favored me with a telegram from General Escobedo, which reads as follows: "SALTILLO, April 8. General Zapala—If you do not find it inconvenient, be pleased to return your escort that they may take the eight prisoners from Camargo and two from Meir, in order to conduct them to this city or till they encounter an escort which has gone to meet them.

(Signed) M. ESCOBEDO."

According to information, these prisoners are the same who raided in the suburbs of your city. I am positive that, on being identified, Gen. Escobedo will punish them to the utmost extent of the law. I have positive information, through Don Juan Muncas, that the raiders, twenty-four in number, recrossed the river near Meir. At the pass Arieso they compelled a shepherd to guide them to the ford Mentimula. They are all unknown, and desire that you publish this letter, that the raiders were never in the State of the county, but it will soon be known where they belong to. I suppose that the eight apprehended belong to the guerrillos. Be assured that the Mexican authorities, in whose hands they are, will treat them with the gravity their crimes demand. Gen. Escobedo is a friend of order, and it is his desire to conserve the peace between Republics and give satisfaction.

(Signed) SANTOS BENOVIDES.

CORPUS CHRISTI, April 24.—A letter from Carrizo, Texas, says Dr. Lowell, who was murdered by the Mexicans on the 18th, was surprised and shot six times by the robbers of the postoffice. They attempted to break open the safe of the custom house, but failed. Dr. Lowell had many friends, and a feeling of retaliation for his brutal murder is exhibited.

Couriers from all parts of the frontier report large bands of armed Mexicans moving this way. Yesterday fifteen Americans, who were returning to their homes in the true state of affairs in the vicinity of Loperri rancho, about fifty miles from here, were attacked by forty-five Mexicans, and a fight ensued, in the course of which one was killed and one taken prisoner. The Americans lost none, but, being outnumbered, were compelled to retreat. They immediately summoned all the force they could muster, numbering about fifty. Fifty well armed Americans left here and many leave to-morrow to meet the raiders, who have forced the telegraph operator at Rio Grande City to have cut the line. On the 22d the line repairer from this place started out to repair and was chased for three miles. They fired several times at him, but he got safely into the timber. The Mexican bandits seem determined to keep all telegraphic communication with Brownsville cut. A deep sense of indignation is felt at the repeated raids. The people of this portion of Texas are goaded to desperation, and they are determined that these outrages shall soon cease.

ST. LOUIS.

Action of Presbytery on the Union of the Northern and Southern Assemblies.

ST. LOUIS, April 22.—The Presbytery of St. Louis, at a recent meeting at Rolla, Missouri, on motion of Mr. Deckey, of St. Louis, adopted the following overture to the General Assembly to meet at Cleveland in May.

"While we still believe that the cause and kingdom of Christ in this land would be greatly promoted by the establishment of friendly relations between the two General Assemblies which bear the Presbyterian name and the churches North and South which they represent; and while we deeply regret the apparent failure of recent negotiations yet, being constrained to believe that the result of our joint committees at Baltimore, following the harmonious action of our assemblies at Baltimore and St. Louis, clearly indicates the inexpediency of pressing the subject of closer relations at present; we would most respectfully and earnestly urge our General Assembly to rest further negotiations upon the desired and possible future action of the Southern Assembly."

St. Louis Mutual Fire and Marine, $5,000; Mound City, St. Louis, $6,000; Home Mutual, St. Louis, $5,000; Germania, Cincinnati, $5,000; Old Dominion, Richmond, $5,000; Rhode Island Insurance Association, $10,000; Queen, Liverpool and London, $5,000; Royal, Liverpool, $10,000; Commercial, St. Louis, $5,000; total, $80,000; also on arsenal, $25,000, in Liverpool, London and Globe. The insurance on the building is as follows: St. Louis Mutual Fire and Marine, $5,000; Mound City, St. Louis, $6,000; Home Mutual, St. Louis, $5,000; Germania, Cincinnati, $5,000; Old Dominion, Richmond, $5,000; Rhode Island Insurance Association, $10,000; Queen, Liverpool and London, $5,000; Royal, Liverpool, $10,000; Commercial, St. Louis, $5,000; total, $80,000; also on arsenal, $25,000, in Liverpool, London and Globe. The insurance on other property is not accurately ascertained, but the following offices are known to be losers: Home, of New York, $5,000; St. Paul, $5,000; German American, N. Y., $5,000; Continental, N. Y., $5,000; Commercial Union, Liverpool and London, $7,000; Kansas, Leavenworth, $5,000; Ætna, Hartford, $5,000; Orient, $5,000; Niagara, N. Y., $3,500; Germania, N. Y., $3,500; Buffalo, German, Clay, Ky., and Jefferson Mutual, St. Louis, $2,000 each. The National Guard lost their uniforms, muskets and accoutrements. The fire caught under the stairway leading to the hall in the rear of Gee & Co.'s, and is believed to be the work of an incendiary.

The Roman Catholic bishops of Great Britain have sent letters of sympathy to the bishops of Germany and Switzerland. The letters to the Swiss bishops are especially severe in condemnation of the Old Catholic movement.

SAN FRANCISCO.

Steamer Wrecked off the Coast—Nothing Definite from the Vessel Reported Burning.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—The steamer Ventura, of Goodall, Nelson & Perkin's Line, hence to the ports of Southern California, was wrecked last night at Point Sur, twenty-five miles below Monterey. The steamer is on the rocks and is a total loss. The passengers are all saved, and the cargo will be saved if the weather holds good. The Ventura is a wooden screw steamer, and about 300 tons burthen.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 22.—Nothing definite is received concerning the burning of the steamer off Santa Barbara. A dispatch of three P. M. yesterday, states that persons saw the whole forward part of the ship on fire. Later, when the fog lifted, the steamer could be seen, a thick cloud of black smoke issuing from her stern. Fifteen or twenty guns were heard discharged. A dispatch from the agent of the Goodall, Nelson and Perkins Steamship Company, dated 9:40 P. M., says several parties saw a two masted steamer on fire off Rincon Point about one o'clock, which fired about twenty-five guns. About two o'clock the firing had ceased. The vessel appeared to be steaming along all right. Could not tell whether she was a screw or sidewheel. Another dispatch from the same source says: "Came by team from Santa Barbara. Saw no vessel in distress. Some vessel had been firing guns off Carpenteria about one o'clock. Very foggy."

SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—A dispatch just received from Santa Barbara says the schooner sent out to the assistance of the supposed burning steamer reports that a man-of-war passed yesterday, firing guns in passing. No other information tending to confirm the report of any disaster has been received.

THE BLUE AND GRAY.

Memorial Day at Augusta, Georgia—Decoration of all Soldiers' Graves—Fraternal Speech of General Evans.

AUGUSTA, GA., April 26.—Memorial Day was observed here with unusually imposing ceremonies. The cornerstone of a Confederate monument was laid. In his speech, General Evans said: "Let us do nothing to keep alive the passions of the war. To study its lessons is prudence, to profit by its teachings is wisdom; but to stir up the old animosities is madness. The voice of this monument will not be for war, but for peace. It will say to us: 'The Confederacy has expired; its great life went out on the purple tide of blood that flowed from the hearts of its sons.' We have buried it; we do not intend to exhume its remains. We are utterly ruined, but the manhood remains. Sadly we parted with our dear old cross of stars, which we followed through many storms of shot and shell, but we take, we bear in the hand the Southern honor, the staff that holds the flag of stars and stripes. I respond with truest feeling to-day to the fraternal words of General Hartley, spoken at the centennial of the first battle of the old Revolution."

Afterward the Ladies Memorial Association decorated with flowers the graves of Confederate and Federal dead in the Augusta cemetery.

OMAHA.

Unusual Rise of the Missouri—Railroad Tracks under Water.

OMAHA, April 25.—The river at this point is the highest for many years. The bottoms are covered with water on both sides of the river, as far as the eye can reach, and still rising. The Union Pacific, Burlington and Missouri and Omaha and Northwestern freight depots are entirely surrounded by water, and all the tracks, except Main street to the Union Pacific shop yard, are covered to the depth of from one to three feet of water. A heavy stream of water is pouring over the bottoms between the Union Pacific shops and the sand hills. Considerable sand is being piled for the safety of the shops and smelting works. The water is also cutting away the great fill at the east approach to the bridge. A large number of men are at work endeavoring to stop it. The river is at a stand at Sioux City, twelve feet eight inches above low water mark.

CLEVELAND.

The "Plaindealer" Loses a Libel Suit—$2,250 Damages.

CLEVELAND, April 23.—In the libel suit of J. F. Young against the Cleveland *Plaindealer*, a verdict was rendered to-day in the United States Circuit Court awarding to the plaintiff $2,250 damages. Young sued for $2,000, in consequence of items published in the *Plaindealer* in April, 1874, charging him with robbing his own store for the purpose of defrauding his partner and creditors. The *Plaindealer's* information was received from detectives and others connected with the police department.

THE COAL MINERS.

Raid of Strikers on a House in Hazleton—One of the Party Killed—Wilkesbarre Miners Remain Stubborn.

HAZLETON, April 23.—A party of miners made an attack upon the house of J. Morrison, last evening. F. Louderburn, who was stopping with Morrison, fired upon the attacking party, killing one of them instantly, whereupon the raiders dispersed.

WILKESBARRE, April 25.—The miners at Hillman mines yesterday voted against going to work.

SALT LAKE.

Brigham Young Again Up for Contempt.

SALT LAKE, April 24.—Brigham Young was summoned to appear to-day before Chief Justice Lowe, to show cause why he should not be held for contempt for failing to pay Ann Eliza $9,500 on the monthly allowance of $500 alimony, *pendente lite*. The case was argued for an appeal to the Supreme Court. The commission was Judge called for the papers in the case, but no decision was given.

FIRE RECORD.

Chicago—$30,000.

CHICAGO, April 26.—H. W. Pitts' Sons' agricultural implement manufactory, on Jefferson and Randolph streets, was nearly destroyed by a fire which broke out in the building at 6:30 this morning. The loss on the building is about $10,000; insured in the People's, Franklin, Hudson, Girard, and Fairfield for $1,250 each, and in other companies for $6,250. Schoeff Bros., piano makers, in the same building, loss $5,000; insurance $1,000. M. L. Livingston, manufacturer of pictures, looking-glasses and furniture, loses about $12,000; insured for $7,000, principally in Queen, Liverpool, London and Globe companies. Hanson & Nelson, furniture dealers on the second floor, lose $2,000; insured. The total loss is about $30,000.

St. Louis—$100,000.

ST. LOUIS, April 26.—About this afternoon in the Verandah Hall building, occupying the block on North Fourth street, between St. Charles and Washington avenue, burned the entire roof, gutted the Verandah, which embraced all of the upper story and was occupied by the National Guard as an armory, nearly destroyed the stock of H. F. Gee & Co., gentlemen's furnishing goods, and damaged more or less all the occupants of the building. The principal losses are Nutter, Grant & Co., hardware and trimming store, by water, $20,000; insured for $50,000. Manning & Co., china and glassware, $15,000; insured; and breakage; insured for $60,000. Kunkel Bros., music, $10,000 by water: insurance $12,000. L. Paris, millinery, $8,000 by water; insurance $10,000. Gee & Co., $12,000, by fire; insurance $15,000. Building, $15,000; insurance $60,000. Other smaller losses make an aggregate of $100,000. The insurance on the building is as follows: St. Louis Mutual Fire and Marine, $5,000; Mound City, St. Louis, $6,000; Home Mutual, St. Louis, $5,000; Germania, Cincinnati, $5,000; Old Dominion, Richmond, $5,000; Rhode Island Insurance Association, $10,000; Queen, Liverpool and London, $5,000; Royal, Liverpool, $10,000; Commercial, St. Louis, $5,000; total, $80,000; also on arsenal, $25,000, in Liverpool, London and Globe. The insurance on other property is not accurately ascertained, but the following offices are known to be losers: Home, of New York, $5,000; St. Paul, $5,000; German American, N. Y., $5,000; Continental, N. Y., $5,000; Commercial Union, Liverpool and London, $7,000; Kansas, Leavenworth, $5,000; Ætna, Hartford, $5,000; Orient, $5,000; Niagara, N. Y., $3,500; Germania, N. Y., $3,500; Buffalo, German, Clay, Ky., and Jefferson Mutual, St. Louis, $2,000 each. The National Guard lost their uniforms, muskets and accoutrements. The fire caught under the stairway leading to the hall in the rear of Gee & Co.'s, and is believed to be the work of an incendiary.

The Roman Catholic bishops of Great Britain have sent letters of sympathy to the bishops of Germany and Switzerland. The letters to the Swiss bishops are especially severe in condemnation of the Old Catholic movement.

THE CLARK-McCULLY CASE.

Testimony of Experts Pro and Con—Genuine and not Genuine—Who'll Decide when Doctors Disagree, Etc.

In Judge Stowe's branch of the Common Pleas Court, Thursday, the trial as to the genuineness of the signature of the late James McCully, to a paper authorizing his executors to pay Robert D. Clark $75,000, was resumed.

John H. Hampton, Esq., called additional witnesses for the defense as follows:

John G. McDonnell, Esq., whose father had been a tenant of Mr. McCully for years, and who was acquainted with his signature, did not think the one to the paper in controversy was genuine.

Mr. Hampton here offered to prove that Mr. McCully spoke to the witness prior to the 17th of April, 1872, about making a will, and spoke of the manner of disposing of his property, but said nothing about Mr. Clark. After some controversy the offer was withdrawn for the present.

Samuel D. Hill was recalled and testified that McCully had indorsed for his (Hill's) father, during the three years before his death, to the amount of 125,000. Witness frequently saw Mr. McCully indorse without examining the body of the note.

Mr. Lockhart was recalled and corroborated Major Frew as to Mr. McCully's declaration in 1872, that he would do less indorsing, and try and secure himself upon what already made.

AN EXPERT'S OPINION.

W. H. Duff, sworn—I have charge of Duff's College; I have often been called upon to pass upon signatures regarding their genuineness; on last Saturday I examined this writing with a magnifying glass.

Mr. Hampton—I wish you would state whether in your opinion, as an expert, the seal on that paper was made before or after the name to James McCully was written on it. Objected to and objection overruled.

Witness—With the aid of a magnifying glass it seems that the seal has crossed the dark lines after the name was written on it; the name is written in very black ink, while the seal and other writing is written in very fluid ink. With the naked eye one could hardly detect it, but with the glass I find that the blue ink, the ink of the seal, in crossing the outline of the last part of the "y," the ink of the "y" has run into the pale bluish ink of the seal. It seems that the flourishing around the seal has been written after the "y" was made. I have examined carefully with the glass the name of James McCully; the first part of the signature looks like a feigned hand—the shading is very rough—while in the latter part, the shading is extremely smooth. The "y" goes so slow, in my opinion, that the signature is a feigned hand; it strikes me in that way; I think the first part was written more than the last part; the letter "J" seems to have been written very slow-ly; the paper is thin, very inferior paper; I would not call writing on it a check or a telegram or letter sheet.

On cross-examination the witness stated that he made the examination at the instance of Major Frew, and had some twenty signatures for comparison. The comparison he made he did not think he would express an opinion in the matter.

The defense here closed.

REBUTTING TESTIMONY.

Mr. Acheson stated that he thought he would be able to establish the genuineness of the signature beyond doubt. He would now also show that when Mr. Clark embarked in his present business—the grocery business—he did it at the advice of Mr. McCully; that in the fall of 1872 Mr. McCully was applied to to make his first indorsement for Mr. Clark, which he did for $40,000; and from that time on he indorsed for him freely, covering a sum of $200,000 in a period of two years. These indorsements were made without security. Security was exacted; none was expected; shortly before this transaction Mr. McCully spoke to Mr. Clark, and said he was an old man, and he desired to make some provision for him in the event of his death; and he would like to have it be referred to the other conversation, about which Major Frew had spoken. A note was made for $40,000, and it was agreed that I wouldn't need an indorser when he died.

The witness was further cross-examined, in regard to the paper which he produced about the paper; what had been said then, and what the witness had testified to before the Register, etc.

At the opening of Judge Stowe's Court on Monday, Mr. Hampton proceeded with the cross-

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1875.

THE Democratic press of Ohio generally favors a short campaign this year, by reason of its knowledge that, the more the character and record of its party are stirred, the worse they will stink.

THE *Village Record*, of Westchester, says, speaking of the reported general destruction of the peach buds by the late frosts, it is invariably true that where the destruction of the peach crop is proved so early in the season, it turns out a good one at the proper time.

BAY CITY, Michigan, is in a fevor of excitement over the late important coal discoveries near that place. All sorts of advantages are confidently expected to accrue from these developments, and it is predicted that the discovery will do more toward building up that city than its lumber and brine. The establishment of iron manufactories is already contemplated, the coal fields being the nearest to the great iron mines of Lake Superior.

THE new Democratic Auditor General, TEMPLE, has appointed his law partner chief clerk, and his son-in-law corporation clerk. These are the two best paying clerkships in the department; and we suppose the rest of the family are to be put in the other clerkships. Nepotism used to be considered a crime when the Democrats were out of power; but when they get in, the change in circumstances alters the case. It is a crime now only in GRANT.

THE report that the Supreme Court of the United States had decided the case known as the Louisiana Grant parish or enforcement case, is denied on authority. The last consultation of the court previous to its approaching adjournment, was held on Saturday, and the enforcement case has not been considered at all, or even referred to in consultation, so that it is impossible for even the judges themselves to know how the tribunal stands on the question. So much for that lie.

THE Executive Committee of the Miners' National Association has just decided to support the strike in the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys, and to advise the miners in the Tuscarawas Valley to remain idle. The committee, however, condemns the steps taken by the miners in the latter region for suspending labor for an advance in prices without first having submitted their claims in a proper way to the employers, and offering to have the same submitted to a Board of Arbitrators for adjustment.

THE Boston *Pilot*, perhaps the ablest Catholic paper in the country, having in a temperate way objected to the recent statement of a Catholic priest at Buffalo, that "the public schools have produced nothing but a godless generation of thieves and blackguards," is being savagely rapped over the knuckles for it by the rabid Church organs. No doubt the expression was scandalously unjust; still it seems to agree in the main with the Pope's own utterances concerning the same general subject.

SPEAKING of the prevalent Western immigration fever, the St. Louis *Republican* observes: "Moving West is an American business; we have been engaged in it for a hundred years. But what will we do when there is no longer a West to emigrate to? That time has nearly arrived.' When it comes, the growth of the country will date after next toward its center. The population of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee can be doubled, and yet not reach more than a hundred to the square mile. The country will grow in a different way. Great manufacturing centers will arise; interior towns and cities will be built up; our coal and iron resources will be developed, and the principal part of our surplus grain products will be needed for home consumption. That is the way we will do when there is no longer a West to emigrate to."

AFTER all, a cheat is perhaps more fool than knave. Virginia is already beginning to feel the baneful effects of its repudiation tendencies. The Democratic Staunton *Vindicator* of a recent date says:

"A few days since a gentleman actively engaged in the organization of a new financial enterprise here went to Baltimore in company with the gentleman prominent in financial circles in Staunton to get some of the stock taken. They found no disposition to do so, with a few, and could not get more than $500 of stock taken. They then went to a wealthy Virginian in Baltimore, thinking they could surely count on him. He expressed himself, saying that 'when a man of Mr. Wickersham's position succeeds in getting such a plan as his was through the popular branch of the Virginia Legislature, the sense of the moral obligation to meet indebtedness must be too low in that State to make an investment there safe.'"

This is the practical result of the well nigh successful attempt made last winter to make that Commonwealth violate its contract with its creditors, and stoop itself in dishonor. And yet, we learn from the *Washington Star*, the repudiationists have made such serious inroads upon the morals and consciences of the staid and deservedly reputed honorable citizens of that State, that the Legislature to be elected next fall will probably be worse than the present one.

The New York *Bulletin* suggests to the surplus laboring population of the East that there is a fine opening for them in Oregon. The East is overstocked with labor and the nearer portions of the West have more than enough. Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska are filling up as fast as need be, and they want capital much more than they do labor. California, also, is overrun, and the Territories have but little outlet for industry other than the mines afford. Oregon, on the contrary, is a fresh field. It is off the line of Pacific travel, and the great currents of emigration follow the railroad routes almost exclusively. It is because she lies off to one side that she has been neglected; but, now that other places are over-supplied, attention may well be directed to those parts of the country which have heretofore been over-looked. In a recent message to the Legislature of that State, Governor GROVER says the great want of Oregon is more population. There are now in that State only one hundred thousand people. But with so slight a population in all departments of life and business, the value of the exports last year was more than ten million dollars. There is beyond question a brilliant future for Oregon. It is rich in all the elements of extensive and permanent wealth. Land is still cheap there, and a cordial welcome will meet every man who is willing to work, and who goes there to make himself a home.

THE latest official commercial statistics received from Great Britain show that the aggregate value of merchandise imported into that country from this during the year ending December 31, 1874, was £368,435,434, a falling off of £1,954,008 compared with the previous twelve months. The value of the raw cotton received from the United States during 1874 was £296,611,282, against £31,725,672 in 1873, and £26,098,667 in 1872. The wheat received from the United States during 1874 was valued at £14,178,791, and the wheat flour at £2,915,752. The total value of merchandise exported by Great Britain during the last calendar year was £239,436,207, against £255,164,605 during the previous twelve months, a falling off of £15,728,396. The exports to the United States of manufactures wholly of silk show an increase from £183,053 in 1873, to £242,005 in 1874; manufactures of silk and other materials decreased from £81,676 in 1873, to £61,342, in 1874, and ribbons of all kinds fell from £51,392 in 1873, to £24,020 in 1874. The value of woolen and worsted manufactures exported to the United States in 1874 was £4,022,196, against £5,138,914 the year previous, showing a falling off in that class of manufactures exported to the United States of about twenty per cent. as compared with 1873. The exportation of carpets to the United States last year reached 3,856,970 yards, valued at £673,282, against 5,005,741 yards in 1873, valued at £806,904, a falling off of nearly twenty-five per cent. The exportation of sheep and lambs' wool to the United States increased from £92,281 in 1873, to £82,052 in 1874. Comparing the increase of wool with the decrease in the exportation to the United States of manufactures of wool, it would imply that the decrease in the consumption in that class of British manufactures was caused by an increased consumption of the same class of goods of American manufacture. The aggregate decrease in the value of British exportations for 1874 in the articles named manufactures above named, compared with 1873, is £1,220,322, or over $6,000,000 in gold. During the same time we received from Great Britain for wheat alone £1,283,012 more than we received for the same product in 1873. We are indebted to the New York *Times* for the basis of this compilation.

IN TUESDAY'S issue of the New York *Times* the Washington correspondent of that paper presents, in condensed form, a valuable array of official statistics regarding our export trade for the last fiscal year, from which we gather that the total value of merchandise exported during that period, computed in national currency, was $693,039,054, the gold valuation being $632,913,445, which is greater than the valuation of our foreign imports for the same period by over $57,000,000, making the balance of trade in our favor by that amount. Many of the articles enumerated in the list of exports, which are grown or manufactured in the United States, are also imported from abroad, and the *Times* pithily says: "The simple statement of this fact should suffice to show the folly of Americans sending their money abroad for articles which may be purchased at much lower prices and of equally good quality at our own manufactories." Great Britain and her dependencies offer the principal markets for our exported productions. We sent to the markets of that nation during the last fiscal year merchandise to the value of $440,945,870, or nearly two-thirds of the entire value of all our exports for that period. Of that amount there was shipped direct to England $308,876,292, and to Ireland and Scotland, $64,690,216. The value of merchandise received last year from Great Britain was $255,180,597 gold. Next to Great Britain, Germany is our best customer, $64,344,622 being our receipts for her purchases. To France and her dependencies we shipped $59,485,045 worth of merchandise, of which France received directly over $50,000,000 worth. Spain and her colonies paid us $53,595,549, of which there was from the mother country $11,643,715, and from Cuba, $19,567,981. To Belgium we sent merchandise valued at $20,197,515; to the Netherlands, $15,156,309; Russia, $10,284,803; Italy, $8,378,666; Turkey, $2,549,493; Denmark, $2,430,791; Norway and Sweden, $2,385,088; China, $1,629,165; Japan, $1,808,107; Brazil, $7,562,832; United States of Columbia, $5,123,545; Mexico, $4,673,679; Hayti, $4,265,686; Chili, $2,730,617; Peru, $2,518,494; Argentine Republic, $2,478,513; Venezuela, $2,384,139. The countries named are the largest markets for the sale and consumption of our productions. Those which purchased least from us are Greece, $32,688; Liberia, $123,403; San Domingo, $514,635, and the Sandwich Islands, $623,280. For iron and manufactures of iron we received $9,578,604, and for steel $1,119,344. Machinery was shipped to almost every nation in the world, bringing us in return $3,357,909. We sent abroad seventy-nine locomotives, valued at $1,147,366; forty-eight stationary steam engines; stoves to the value of $102,398; edge tools to the amount of $941,016; cutlery, $47,132; files and saws, $21,496; muskets, pistols and rifles, $2,310,138, and other manufactures of steel, $225,457. These statistics are all the more interesting for the reason that it is what we sell and not what we buy that contributes to our national wealth and prosperity.

THE Dayton *Journal* and various other Republican papers say that they know of no one who is in favor of a third term; and they argue that if no one is in favor of it, there should be no uneasiness about it. There can be no danger, they urge, of a renomination of the President, if there is no one in favor of that policy.

The complaint, however, as we understand it, is not that the people or the party are in favor of the third term, but that the President himself entertains the ambition to be again elected. If he does not cherish this purpose, why does he not speak out and say so? It has been charged upon him, and the statement has been brought to his attention by the public press, but from his silence, that the statement is true.

It is to deliver the public mind from this conviction that the President has been asked to say, plainly, that he is not a candidate for re-election. WASHINGTON found no difficulty in obtaining the opportunity to say, openly, that *he* would not permit himself to run for a third term; and JEFFERSON was equally prompt to put a quelcher upon the report that he had an ambition to serve a third time; and if WASHINGTON and JEFFERSON thought it due to the public of their day to remove all doubts upon that subject from the popular mind, why should President GRANT hesitate to follow their example?

There was, probably, as little public sentiment, in WASHINGTON'S and JEFFERSON'S time, in favor of their election for a third term, as there is to-day in favor of GRANT'S re-election. It was talked of, and that was all. There was no organized movement to favor their re-election, and there was no general or extended expression of opinion in favor of it. But the thing was talked about as a possible contingency: and both WASHINGTON and JEFFERSON felt it to be a duty to say, publicly and promptly, that such a use of their names could not and would not be permitted.

The trouble, just now, is not that there is any special danger that a movement will be made to renominate the President, or that there is anyone actively in favor of urging him again as a candidate, but that the President himself is supposed to entertain an idea of that kind. The offense, to the public eye, consits in *his* cherishing such a purpose. There has been no open declaration from him, or authorized by him, to that effect; but there has been no denial of it; and the people who respect the unwritten law of the land, to which WASHINGTON and JEFFERSON did homage, demand that the present occupant of the Presidency shall be no exception to the rule which they obeyed.

OHIO NEWS.

The oldest convict in the Ohio penitentiary died on Monday. He was in for life.

More than twenty teachers in Ohio receive salaries ranging from $1,500 to $4,000.

In Greene county hundreds of acres of wheat have been plowed up for spring crops.

W. S. McKellar, formerly of the Oberlin *News*, has purchased the Cardington *Independent*.

Norwalk's journals of civilization are agitated over the question of buying the fair grounds for a public park.

The latest Crestline sensation, after having four violent deaths in two days, is a shadowy and melancholy ghost.

A Madison county Granger bored a hole with a gimlet in a sheep's head to cure the blind staggers. He did cure 'em.

Richard Easterbee, of Ripley, was found hanging in his stable Tuesday morning, and was quite dead when cut down.

A man named Benjamin McFadden committed suicide at Mount Vernon on Friday by hanging. As soon as discovered he was cut down, but life was extinct. No cause is assigned for the act.

The English sparrows have invaded Sandusky county. These little foreigners will have spread in a few decades over the whole of America if they keep on at their present rate of increase.

The Ohio Common School Teachers' Institute will convene at Fostoria, July 13th and continue four weeks. It will be specially designed for the colored common branches and fit teachers for their work.

At St. Clairville, in the District Court, the case of J. H. Sullivan and others against the city of Bellaire, was decided in favor of Bellaire. The suit was for the possession of the public square in Bellaire. The ground is valued at $30,000. The case will be taken to the Supreme Court.

The Sandusky *Register* gives an account of a curious casualty near that city on the 19th inst. Mr. Albert Weidel, a man in good health, swallowed a bit of cigar leaf which he was chewing, and which caused him to vomit violently. He suddenly felt a sharp pain in his spleen, and he died that evening in great agony. A post mortem examination revealed that he had split his spleen, a hole about an inch long having been torn in it. The deceased had previously suffered from disease of the spleen. He was about fifty years old.

Andrew Kern, a Seneca county farmer, the other day had some good luck. It was thus: In the first place his wife presented him with a pair of twins, which, although a double dose, was strictly a domestic affair. This matter had hardly been settled before a report came up from the barn that one of the ewes had enlarged the sheep family by two, that a colt had suddenly appeared, and that a red cow was drawing nourishment from a full grown bovine. So it simply was two babies, two lambs, one colt and one calf that appeared to Mr. Kern in less than twenty-four hours.

The latest from the troubled mining district in Clearfield county, Pa., is that the miners in the vicinity of Osceola are at work with a reduced force, under the protection of special police, and at the old rate of fifty cents per ton. A great many of the former employees are leaving for other parts to seek employment.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27, 1875.

Suit Against Ex-Secretary Sawyer.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue will at once institute a suit against ex-Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sawyer for the defalcation of twenty thousand dollars while Collector of the Charleston district of South Carolina. This deficiency occurred seven years ago, after which Mr. Sawyer was elected a Senator of the United States. He has made several unsuccessful attempts to have Congress relieve him of this liability. The department has exercised unusual leniency toward him in postponing decisive measures, but is now satisfied that he either will not or cannot refund the amount of the deficiency. His sureties are amply sufficient for the amount.

Revenue Frauds in South Carolina.

L. Cass Carpenter, ex-Representative and Collector of the Third South Carolina Revenue district, arrived here to-day and reported the most flagrant cases of illicit distillation, attended with repeated acts of violence against United States officers. He asked for troops to protect United States officials in the performance of their duties. The request will be referred to the President for action.

Border Ruffianism.

The disturbances along the Rio Grande frontier are not looked upon in official circles as strictly an invasion, but border ruffianism, and hence not proper subjects of national interference. It is considered the duty of the Governor of Texas to surpress such acts of violence, and the use of troops will be granted if requested. The depredations upon the postoffices alone give the question a serious character in the eyes of the General Government.

Cabinet Matters.

There are numerous speculations as to the probable successor of Attorney General Williams. Judge Bond, of Maryland, United States Circuit judge, is mentioned to-day. Ex-Senator Carpenter says that he does not wish the office, as he is pecuniarily better off in his legal practice. The scandal correspondents who originated the sensational accounts in reference to Cabinet troubles, will figure in the most audacious manner in fabricating the same sort of matter. The accounts purporting to give the proceedings in the Cabinet are pronounced false from the beginning to end.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28, 1875.

Official Spree at Pensacola.

A special Treasury agent who was dispatched to Pensacola, Florida, to examine the charges made against the Collector of Customs at that place, has just returned. He found the Collector's accounts all right, but was made cognizant of a circumstance which reflects no credit on any of the Federal officials at that place. It seems that the United States Marshal, who had been lately reappointed, indulged in a jollification over the event, and he and the United States District Attorney became so much exhilerated as to disturb the quiet of the town. For this they were brought before the town authorities and the Collector and Congressman Purman were summoned as witnesses. They refused to appear and were fined for contempt.

Edwards Pierrepont for Attorney General.

The President was much gratified to-day by the receipt of a letter from Edwards Pierrepont, of New York, accepting the position of Attorney General. Immediately on receiving this letter, the President wrote to Attorney General Williams accepting his resignation. The Cabinet will be much strengthened by the accession of Judge Pierrepont.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1875.

THE RAILWAY COLLISON—ACCOUNT OF CONDUCTOR BUCHANAN—LIST OF THE WOUNDED.

In addition to the names of the injured given in last night's dispatch, are the following: Hugh Kernan, of Baltimore, formerly proprietor of the Theatre Comique in this city, both ankles badly smashed; S. L. Everett, City Treasurer of Cleveland, a severe cut on the forehead; H. H. St. Stevens, of Ohio, slight cut on the back of the left hand; G. T. Needham, of the Sixth Auditor's office, both legs bruised below the knees; Crittenden Crane, brakeman on the Philadelphia train, right knee slightly hurt, and J. H. Robinson, of this city, badly bruised about the legs. Conductor Buchanan, in his account of the accident, states that he left on time, and after passing the navy yard station he found the train going at too high a rate of speed and on a track it should not be upon. He pulled the bell rope for the engineer to down breaks and stop. The signal was not heeded and the train passed on for a second time for the stoppage of the train, and again not properly responded to. At this time Mr. Buchanan was in the rear passenger car looking for tickets. When he found that his directions were neither noticed nor obeyed, and that his train was increasing its speed, he became alarmed. Thinking that the rope, in passing through the cars and over the tender, had become fast and thus prevented the bell on the engine from sounding he started forward as rapidly as a verbal order for the returning of the train to the right track. The failure of the gong to sound, or the engineer to hear and obey it, caused the collision. Before Buchanan could leave the car the two engines had met. Buchanan had just reached the car door and was about opening it, when the engine plunged through the head through the glass window, inflicting wounds. He feels satisfied that if the signs had been properly and promptly answered by the engineer, the collision would have been avoided.

Engineers McAfee and Fry, fireman Bechtel and passengers George W. Baker, Thos. Collins and George D. Arity, taken to the Providence Hospital yesterday, are slowly improving, but all access to them is prohibited by the physicians.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28, 1875.

PARTING COURTESIES BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAMS.

The following is the letter of resignation of Attorney General Williams and the reply of the President:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, }
WASHINGTON, April 22. }

To the President:

SIR—I hereby resign the office of Attorney General of the United States, to take effect on the 15th proximo. I cannot dissolve our official relations without thanking you for the many acts of friendship and confidence with which you have honored me, and expressing for you, personally, my very high regard and esteem.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) GEORGE H. WILLIAMS.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28, 1875. }

Hon. George H. Williams, Attorney General of the United States.

DEAR SIR—In accepting your resignation of the office of Attorney General of the United States, to take effect the 15th of May, 1875, as tendered by your letter of the 22d of April, allow me to express my appreciation of the ability, zeal and efficiency with which the trust confided to your charge has been performed. My sincere friendship accompanies you in the new field of life you have chosen, and my best wishes for your success.

(Signed) Very respectfully,
U. S. GRANT.

LIST OF UNITED STATES PATENTS ISSUED TO THE INVENTORS OF PENNSYLVANIA AND OHIO FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 27TH AND DATED APRIL 30, 1875.

J. W. Eastwood, Monroe, Portfolio.
W. Stout, Philadelphia, Grates for Stoves.
A. Rosenbaum, Philadelphia, Fountain Pen.
M. C. Fisher, Philadelphia, Gas Regulator.
W. M. Fisk, Lancaster, Handle Fastener.
J. H. Gilbert, Lancaster, Metal Cutter.
E. F. Landis, Lancaster, Portable Engine.
G. R. Moore, Philadelphia, Water Closet Valve.
J. G. Baker, Philadelphia, Cutting Instrument.
J. G. Baker, Philadelphia, Mill Burr.
J. G. Baker, Philadelphia, Carriage Jack.
D. W. Rowland, Doer Fastener.
J. C. Climc, Philadelphia, Roundabout.
R. Cramer, Pittsburgh, Nut Lock.
E. Dewitz, Philadelphia, Bedstead Fastening.
S. I. Flagg, Philadelphia, Converting Cast Iron into Steel.
S. L. Fox, Philadelphia, Lead Holder.
J. G. Frost, Towanda, Extension Table.
J. Gregg, Philadelphia, Brick Machine.
J. A. Haase, Philadelphia, Safety Car Step.
C. H. Harrison, Philadelphia, Furnace Grate.
T. Harrington, Philadelphia, Anti-Friction Metal.
J. Hindmeyer and E. Beinkampen, Philadelphia, Beer Barrel Vent.
C. Kellogg, Athens, Iron Bridges.
J. C. Libe, Philadelphia, Poker and Tongs.
W. Lorey, Philadelphia, Shoeing Machine.
G. W. Lawton and H. T. Jeffreys, Philadelphia, Car pet Rag Looper.
J. Reynolds, Philadelphia, Radiator.
C. C. Savey, Philadelphia, Fluting Iron.
J. W. Spangler and B. F. Reich, York, Washing Machine.
W. Stout, Philadelphia, Cross Piece for Stoves.
C. A. White, Philadelphia, Dental Pot.
C. A. White, Philadelphia, Dental Flask.
J. S. Williams, Philadelphia, Portable Commode.
S. D. Rader, Williamsport, Brick Kiln.
Trade Marks.—E. F. Kunkel, Philadelphia, Medicines.
Jessey and Young, Philadelphia, Corset Steels.
F. Spreen, Pittsburgh, Medicine.

OHIO.

W. Hayden, Columbus, Railroad Car Heater.
G. L. Rouse and M. W. Stoddard, Cincinnati, Wheel Hub.
P. L. Carter and J. W. Rhoades, Clyde, Combined Chairs, Button Hole Cutters, etc.
J. W. Humphreys and J. S. McLary, Huntsville, Spark Arrester.
J. Q. Jaynes, Cincinnati, Vapor Burner.
J. J. Kroeger, Piqua, Beer Cooler.
G. W. Lee, Homeworth, Feed Cutting Machine Spline.
C. Anderson, Cincinnati, Fire Alarm Box.
C. Miller, Fremont, Buggy Top.
A. Streit, Cincinnati, Polishing Cutter.
J. Tessvnan, Dayton, Steam Pump.
R. W. Whitney, Cleveland, Sewing Machine Cover.
E. I. Wollrom, Washingtonville, Ironing Table.
Reissue.—I. T. Worley, Cleveland, Safety Passenger Car.
Design.—C. M. Murch, Cincinnati, Reflector.

The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20, 1775—Proposed Centennial Celebration of that Suppossa Affair at Charlotte, North Carolina—Historical and Documentary Evidence Against the Authenticity of that Declaration.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 26, 1875.

The citizens of Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, according to accounts from that section, are making extensive preparations to celebrate an occurrence which, if true, would rob the event soon to be commemorated in an international exhibition at Philadelphia, of much of its historical and political interest, if not of importance. The occurrence alluded to is what is known as the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, of May 20, 1775. The pretensions of the people of Mecklenburg county during the past half century have at divers times been very carefully and thoroughly analyzed by persons interested in historical researches and inquiries. These persons have very effectually exploded the claims of this rival of the great Declaration proclaimed at Philadelphia on July 4, 1776.

It was not until forty-four years after the alleged Declaration of Independence at Mecklenburg purports to have been signed that anything was known of its existence. The announcement was then, 1819, made in the Raleigh *Register*, a newspaper of that day, and naturally created no little surprise. The statement there made was that the people of Mecklenburg county, in the State of North Carolina, had, on the 20th day of May, in the year 1775, openly declared their independence of Great Britain. This astounding piece of information was supported by an ingeniously devised historical document, purporting to have been written at a contemporaneous date, and designed to authenticate the document. This statement asserted that the influential inhabitants of the county of Mecklenburg, in the early part of 1775, impelled by the generous sentiment that "the cause of Boston was the cause of all," held a meeting on May 19th, at Charlotte, the county town, in response to a call from the commanding officer of the Mecklenburg militia "for the purpose of devising ways and means to aid and assist their suffering brethren in Boston, and also generally to adopt measures to extricate themselves from the impending storm."

At this juncture, it appears the news of the battle of Lexington, fought one hundred years ago, was brought by express to Charlotte. This, according to the Raleigh *Register* story, capped the climax of popular hostility toward the British Crown, so that "after a full and free discussion," the following Declaration of Independence was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That whosoever directly or indirectly abbetted or in any way, form or manner countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights, as claimed by Great Britain, is an enemy to this country, to America, and to the inherent rights of citizens thereof.

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Mecklenburg county, do hereby dissolve the political bonds which have connected us to that mother country, and hereby absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the British Crown, and abjure all political connection, contact, or association with that nation; and we hereby renounce her wicked measures to enslave our country and inhumanly shed the blood of American patriots at Lexington.

Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, and of right ought to be a sovereign and self-governing association, under the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of Congress; to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes and our most sacred honor.

Resolved, That as we now acknowledge the existence and control of no law or legal officer, civil or military, within the country, we do hereby ordain and adopt as a rule of life all, each and every of our former laws, wherein, nevertheless, the crown of Great Britain never can be considered as holding rights, privileges and immunities or authorities therein.

Resolved, That it is further decreed that all, each and every military officer in this county is hereby reinstated in his former command and authority, he acting conformably to these regulations. And that every member present of this delegation shall henceforth act as a civil officer, as a justice of the peace, in the character of a "committee man," to issue process, hear and determine all matters of controversy, according to said adopted laws, and to preserve peace, unity and harmony in said county, and to use every exertion to spread the love of country and fire of freedom throughout America, until more general and organized government be established in this province.

The authors of this enterprise with considerable ingenuity surrounded it with subsequent events, alleging that a code of laws was adopted at the same time to regulate the action of the association, and that a messenger, one James Jack, was sent to Charlotte, was delegated to convey a copy of the resolves and proceedings to the Continental Congress, then in session at Philadelphia, and a letter urging North Carolina members "to use all possible means to have the said proceedings sanctioned and approved by the General Congress." It is positively alleged that Captain Jack, after his return, reported that the proceedings were "individually approved" by the Continental Congress, and that it was deemed premature to lay them before the House."

The appearance of the Declaration of Independence was duly noted, and an official memorandum which accompanied it at once excited a controversy which has lasted to the present day. The resemblance of the Mecklenburg resolves to the immortal instrument of our liberties prepared by Jefferson in some of the expressions employed, led to the suspicion, at the time of its appearance in 1819, that Mecklenburg paper, and before its spurious character was fully sustained, that Jefferson had derived some of his phraseology from the earlier paper.

The Mecklenburg Declaration did not appear under circumstances calculated to inspire confidence in its authenticity. The certificate of authentication by a single individual upon whose alone depended, declared that the original book was burned in April, 1800, and that copies were sent to certain parties named.

At the time of its appearance, many of the actors in the scenes attending the preparation and proclamation of the Declaration at Philadelphia, were still alive, and were familiar with the phraseology of the rival instrument. John Adams, in a letter to Jefferson, dated June 22, 1819, alludes to the Mecklenburg Declaration, a copy of which had been sent him as "one of the greatest curiosities and one of the deepest mysteries that had ever occurred to him." He adds "how is it possible that a paper of such high pith has been concealed from me to this day? Had it been communicated to me in the time of it, I know if you do not know that it would have been printed in every newspaper in the continent. You know that if I had possessed it I would have made the hail of Congress echo and re-echo with it fifteen months before the people had ever heard of independence" [Works of John Adams vol. X., pp. 380.381.] Jefferson, in his reply to Adams, characterizes the paper as "an unjustifiable poke at me," and gives ample reasons of suspicion, one of which is that Dr. Williamson, living at the time, did not recollect in the history he wrote of North Carolina this "republic step of its county of Mecklenburg."

The similarity of expressions used in the unauthenticated and genuine instruments has been employed by the supporters of the former as every reason for the belief that Jefferson saw the paper, and led to the charge that he was guilty of stealing from it some of the "choicest of his phrases" in his own. The fact is that these expressions were used by Richard Henry Lee, who drew up the resolution passed by Congress July 2, 1776, as follows:

Resolved, That these United Colonies *are and of right ought to be free and independent States*; that they *are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown*, and that *all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and of right ought to be dissolved*.

The Declaration at Philadelphia was to be in conformity with this resolution.

The doubts surrounding the Mecklenburg paper inspired the Legislature of North Carolina to, with the most laudable but difficult purpose of collecting all the documents relating to this affair, so as to demonstrate beyond dispute the authenticity of the Mecklenburg Declaration, once by the citizens of Mecklenburg." The committee reported and arrived at the conclusion that they had collected sufficient testimony to "silence incredulity." This new testimony consisted mainly of the unsworn statements of seven superannuated witnesses. The conflicting statements and general confusion existing in the minds of these witnesses increase suspicion, rather than "silence incredulity."

The dubious attitude of the question as left by the committee of the North Carolina Assembly, was substantially set aside by the negative by the important discovery made by Peter Force in his researches in connection with the compilation of the materials for his American Archives. In 1838, December 18th, Mr. Force announced, in the *National Intelligencer* of this city, that he had come upon a series of declaratory resolutions passed by the committee of Mecklenburg county on the 31st of May, 1775. These resolutions seem to have been wholly unknown to the people at large, to have been printed in part in full in the New York *Journal* of June 29, 1775, the Massachusetts *Spy*, of July 12, 1775, and in South Carolina June 13, 1775, and transmitted by Minister at London found a copy of the entire series in the British State Paper office.

These resolutions are dated at Charlottetown, Mecklenburg county, May 31, 1775, and began as follows:

"This day the committee of this county met and passed the following resolves:

"Whereas, By an address presented to His Majesty by both Houses of Parliament in February last, the American colonies are declared to be in a state of actual rebellion; we conceive that all laws and commissions confirmed by or derived from the authority of the King and Parliament are annulled and vacated, and the former civil constitution of these colonies for the present wholly suspended; to provide in some degree for the exigences of this county in the present alarming period, we find the peculiar and necessary to pass he following resolves." These are twenty in number, and declaratory of the patriotic sentiment of the people and their adherence to the American cause. These resolutions do not formally declare independence. They assume independence as a fact in view of the hostile relations existing between the British Crown and the American colonies. James C. Welling, LL. D., President of the Columbian University, in this city, after an exhaustive and thorough investigation, concludes that "having traced the authentic history of the paper that was actually sent to Philadelphia, and having shown that the contemporaneous documentary evidence, that the historical surroundings, that the internal proofs, and even that the most salient facts explained in certificates procured to establish a contrary hypotheses, all point to the Declaration of May 31, 1775, as being the only one entitled to credence as a genuine document."

James Tredell, of North Carolina, later appointed one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States by Washington, knew nothing of the alleged declaration of May 20, 1775. He says in the year 1777, that "until very near the time" when the "arbitrary obstinacy" of the King left "no other alternative than indefinite submission or unreserved resistance," he never heard a man speak on the subject of independence who did not speak of it with abhorrence and indignation.

As Dr. Welling well says "but if enough has been said to lead irresistibly to the conclusion that the so-called Declaration of May 20, is unhistorical and spurious, it still remains to show that the honor of the Mecklenburg patriots is pledged to the same demonstration. For it is impossible to believe in the verity of the alleged Declaration of May 20 without binding ourselves in the light of their subsequent conduct to convict its assumed authors and abettors of base defection from principle and of moral perjury." Despite the array of evidence against the alleged Declaration the North Carolinians propose to celebrate the One Centennial anniversary of the presumed event. General Jos. E. Johnston has been appointed Marshal of the day, and orations and salutes in honor of the imaginary Declaration will be indulged in. While not wishing to deprecate the patriotism of the citizens of North Carolina in the trying times of the Revolution, it seems to us proper in recognizing an event which had no other origin than in the imagination of the writer of the statement in the Raleigh *Register*, nearly half a century after the time the event was alleged to have occurred. It will be interesting to see what the parties in the celebration will have to say for themselves. DEB. R. K.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Mail Budget by the Steamer City of Peking to San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—The Pacific Mail Steamship City of Peking arrived this afternoon, having left Hong Kong April 1, arrived at Yokohama April 6, and left April 10. She encountered bad weather off the coast of Japan, and a rough sea all the way home.

The Peking brings news from Shanghai to March 31st, and from Hong Kong to April 1st. It is reported from Corea that the embassy which visited Peking last fall, charged with carrying the results of the Japanese negotiations, were advised by the Chinese Government that the treaties between Corea and Western nations would not be ratified, but that Japan should be excluded. This is believed to be in consequence of China's irritation against Japan. At that time the Coreans had previously been falsely warned by China that America, France and Japan were combining for an attack, and consequently made great preparations for the event, but on receipt of a second message, the extra levies of soldiers were disbanded and the king declared his willingness to treat, although at first strongly opposed by his ministers. It is now believed that Corea will respond affirmatively to the next appeal for intercourse.

The authorities of Foki[illegible] show themselves alive to the necessity of increased intercourse with Formosa. Consul Swinhoe Shaw, who petitioned in January that the Viceroy's official residence should be changed from Fokien to Formosa, now advocates in a memorandum the liberal and speedy removal of all restrictions on trade with and emigration to that island. This document reveals the remarkable fact that all Chinese have hitherto been forbidden, under heavy penalties, to enter the territory of the savages, trade or inter-marry with them; also that stone posts have always marked the line where the Chinese military territory begins. Thus new evidence is afforded that China never controlled savage Formosa. In answer to the petition, a decree was issued authorizing colonization.

The City of Peking made the passage from Yokohama to Hong Kong in five days and sixteen hours.

The Russian Minister in Pekin is said to have applied for a revision of the treaties between Russia and China.

The present head of the family of Confucius is now in Peking to receive the tablet from the Emperor, which, according to custom, is bestowed by each succeeding monarch to be deposited in the Confucian temple at Kiuh.

The frigate Yangoun is about to start on a cruise around the world, under command of Captain Tracy, of the British navy.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA, April 10.—A Government notification has been issued, authorizing Japanese subjects to send contributions to the Australian Exposition next October.

M. Berthemy, Minister of France, sailed for home March 30th, to be absent a year. It is understood that his departure was in consequence of the decision that the Japanese Government had indefinitely postponed the revision of treaties, if so, his action is premature. The Government is nearly ready to announce itself prepared for a revision.

Telegraph receipts in Japan for the year ending last December, are $115,402.

The British Legation is now established in Yeddo.

Dispatches from Shanghai of April 7, allude to the massacre of foreigners at Tien Tsin, 23 Europeans and Americans in all. Advices on the subject not yet made public.

The Japanese Commissioners sent to Siam last winter have fulfilled their secret errand and are returning.

The Japanese official connected with the recent mission to Peking, emphatically re-[illegible]ies the report that he addressed the House of Lords that Mr. Wade, British Minister to China, took an active part in the settlement of the dispute between China and Japan. That in the negotiations, Mr. Wade made advances to the Japanese Commissioner, which were peremptorily declined. Later, the Chinese proposed to submit the question to arbitration, which was again formally refused. Wade's friendly offices toward the Chinese are admitted to be possible, but he was never authorized to act diplomatically, nor did he attempt to offer them counsel at any period.

The investigation is continued respecting the alleged complicity of Horace Greeley named Pease, on Bonin Island. Nothing decisive has been elicited.

Messrs. Capron, Wasson and Cassel, Americans, were presented to the Mikado on the occasion of withdrawing from the Japanese service.

A festival at Nagasaki, in commemoration of events in European history, commenced March 21st and continued three days with great spirit.

PHILADELPHIA.

Consecration of Bishop Jagger.

PHILADELPHIA, April 28.—The Church of the Holy Trinity was crowded to-day on the occasion of the consecration of Rev. Thomas A. Jagger, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. The ceremonies were very impressive. In the chancel there was a grand array of church dignitaries, including eight bishops, besides a large number of clergy from this and other dioceses. The music was furnished by a large chorus under the direction of the organist of the church. At eleven o'clock a long procession of priests entered the church, followed by the Bishop-elect, with his attending chaplains, Rev. Dr. J. H. Eggleston and Rev. Thomas S. Yocum, and after these, the Bishops of Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania, Long Island, New Hampshire, Niobrara and Antigua and the venerable Bishop of Kentucky. The Presiding Bishop having entered the church, the ranks opened and the bishops marched to their places within the chancel, the clergy following to their assigned places. The usual morning services, Bishop Littlejohn's sermon and an address to the Bishop-elect, Dr. Jaggar, vested in cassock and rochet, was presented by Bishop Potter, of New York, and Bishop Stevens, of Pennsylvania, to the consecrator, Right Rev. Bishop Smith, of Kentucky. The testimonials of Dr. Jagger's election and other papers were presented by Rev. Richard Gray, President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. The testimonials being satisfactory, the oath of office was administered and taken by Dr. Jagger. His public examination as to his call, doctrines and duties followed, and he was then vested in the rest of the episcopal habit, with the usual services. After communion, the congregation was dismissed. The offerings, which were very large, will be devoted to the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions in Pennsylvania.

BUFFALO GNAT PLAGUE.

Tennessee Farmers Suffering Great Loss by the Destruction of Stock.

MEMPHIS, April 28.—Complaints are p

the value of which depended upon Mc-Cully dying intestate, or making a will with a similar cause, that if Clark had started out to murder McCully, it must inevitably have taken some other shape than this; it was utterly inconceivable and impossible that a woman of Clark's simplicity and artlessness could have perpetrated such a fraud. He was glad to find himself a member of the bar as Hon. Edgar Cowan; that in proportion as the case was extraordinary, just in that degree was it important that there should be into the mind of the plaintiff to devise such a base fraud upon him. Upon and beyond the speaker then rested, with much bitterness, the character of some of the witnesses for the defense, and dealt rather freely with some portions of their testimony. As to the allegation that the estate had already made good the sum for which McCully had become responsible, it was no defense to the payer, and not even a reason for denying the claim, however. If allowed, the judgments against Clark would have to be fully satisfied out of his estate, before the latter could by reminding the jury that they were asked, in the face of all the testimony as to the genuineness of the signature, and in the light of all the corroborating facts and circumstances, to believe the plaintiff as a forger and a perjurer, and to base this harsh and unjust finding upon mere suspicion and doubt. He would not ask the jury to believe that the property of a citizen, much less his honest and unsullied name, should be swept away, in a court of justice, by the artful conjuring up of doubts and suspicions, and the utter disregard of the law and the facts.

Judge Stowe will charge the jury at half-past nine o'clock this morning.

POLITICAL.

Meeting of the County Republican Executive Committee—County Conventions Fixed for June—Delegates to the State Convention Elected.

The Allegheny County Republican Executive Committee convened Thursday afternoon, Chairman S. F. Patton presiding. There was a very large attendance and much interest was manifested in the proceedings.

The question of time for holding the primary election for delegates to the County Convention was first taken up.

Mr. Joseph M. Gazzam moved that the election be held June 15th.

Mr. Walker (Allegheny) moved that September 15th be the date.

Mr. C. L. Magee further amended by making the time June 12th, so that the Conventions could be held the Tuesday following, 15th.

DATE OF COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

Mr. H. B. Renninger in favor of a late Convention, as did also Captain Gilfillan.

Mr. Magee spoke in favor of holding the Convention in June, contending that it was necessary for the party good that the candidates should be named early, and they should go to the work of canvassing the districts, and aid in bringing out the full Republican vote.

Mr. John A. Myler strongly urged a late Convention, and adverted to last years' experience.

Mr. James Littell thought it did not matter with good Republicans when the primaries were held.

After some further discussion the ayes and nays were called for on the amendment to have the primary elections on Saturday June 12th, and the Convention's on the Tuesday (15th) following and resulted as follows: Yeas 28.

So it was ordered that the primaries be held accordingly.

FOUR CONVENTIONS ORDERED.

Mr. Fetterman offered the following:

Resolved, That the primary election for delegates to the County Conventions be held on Saturday, June 12, 1875, between the hours of 4 and 7 P. M. The Conventions to be held on Tuesday, June 15, 1875, at places to be designated by the officers of the Committee.

That there shall be four conventions held to consist of one delegate from each election district as follows:

Convention No. 1—To nominate a candidate for Sheriff.

Convention No. 2—To nominate candidates for Recorder and Register.

Convention No. 3—To nominate candidates for Clerk of Courts and the Poor.

Convention No. 4—To nominate one candidate for County Controller, and two candidates for County Commissioners.

REPRESENTATION.

Mr. McGee offered an amendment, as follows:

WHEREAS, The city of Pittsburgh has been divided into election districts containing 250 votes each under the provisions of the Constitution of 1873-4, and

WHEREAS, It is important that representation in County Conventions should be uniform, and that each election district should have a representation in proportion to numbers, Therefore,

Resolved, That each election district in the county be represented by a delegate in each County Convention called or to be called by the Republican Executive Committee of this county, and that any district having an excess above 250 votes shall have an additional representative for every 250 votes above that 125: *Provided* always that any district having an excess of three-fifths of 250 or more and above the number to entitle them to another delegate, shall have an additional delegate for such excess: *Provided further*, that the basis upon which districts are to be represented shall be the vote cast in the several districts at the last preceding State election, and that the calculation shall be made on the vote cast for the highest State officer voted for at said election.

Mr. Magee said that the amendment was for the purpose of giving a fair and equal representation all over the county. In Pittsburgh no district, under the law, is to have more than two hundred and fifty votes, and the resolution will give other portions of the county equal representation.

It may be stated that but one district in the county (the First ward, Allegheny) will be affected by this amendment in having, at the last election, polled over four hundred and fifty votes.

The amendment was put to a vote and carried, and Mr. Fetterman's resolution, as amended, was then carried. Captain Gilfillan, of McKeesport, protesting against it.

Mr. Case moved that a committee of five be appointed to secure places for holding the conventions and making arrangements therefor. This was carried with an amendment by Mr. Magee that the committee prepare the call for the conventions. Messrs. Frank E. Case, L. Magee, Thomas H. Hunter, Joseph M. Gazzam and John A. Myler were appointed the committee.

DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION.

Mr. Thomas H. Phelps now moved that the committee proceed to elect delegates to the State Convention to be held at Lancaster, May 26th.

Mr. Felix Negley objected to the committee taking this power, and moved as an amendment, that a primary election be held May 8th, for delegates to choose the delegates to the State Convention.

After some discussion on this subject, Mr. Henry Warner called the ayes and nays on Mr. Negley's amendment.

They ayes and nays being called, resulted in the defeat of the amendment by a large majority, and Mr. Phelps' motion prevailed.

Nominations for delegates were then called for and the following were elected to the State Convention, with but little opposition:

SENATORIAL.

Forty-second district—Arthur Hobson.

Forty-third district—S. P. Fulton.

Forty-fourth district—C. B. Seeley.

Forty-fifth district—M. S. Humphreys.

LEGISLATIVE.

First district—Watson Wooley, H. H. Byram, W. W. Tyson.

Second district—Joseph M. Gazzam, John N. Neeb.

Third district—Thomas Rowswell.

Fourth district—James A. McDevitt, R. B. Brown, C. S. Fetterman, John A. Fox.

Fifth district—H. B. Renninger, J. Gillespie.

Sixth district—Jno. Paul, Chris. Steel.

The committee then adjourned.

FATAL FALL

Break of Scaffolding—Three Men Precipitated a Distance of Thirty Feet—One Killed and One Dangerously Injured.

A frightful accident occurred at about twenty minutes to 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, at No. 189 Smithfield street, by which three men, carpenters, were precipitated some thirty feet to the sidewalk. The building, which is to be occupied by Caspar Ruggter as a saloon, is being repaired, and at the time of the accident the men were engaged in putting on new spouting and cornice. The scaffolding upon which they stood projected from the third-story windows, and was constructed by two of them, Thomas Brodie and Walter Guthrie, while the third man was the "boss," Wm. McGumphey. The scaffolding was not secure enough to hold the weight, and the two journeymen coming upon the north end—toward Seventh avenue—together, gave way with them. There was a crash, and simultaneously a fearful shriek from a woman who stood near, and a crowd soon collected. Brodie went down first, with Guthrie upon him, while McGumphey in his descent clutched with his hands the ornamental wood work over the third floor. His feet kicked through a pane of glass in the window, and slipping loose from his hold he dropped to the sidewalk upon his feet.

Brodie was found to be most seriously hurt. His skull was fractured, and he was left in dangerously injured. He was insensible, and died within twenty minutes after the accident, on Seventh avenue, whither he had been carried.

Guthrie was cut in the head and blood oozed from his ears and nose. He was also severely injured on the right shoulder and is supposed to have been internally injured. He was insensible at first, but in a short time recovered and was able to converse.

McGumphy sustained the breaking of a wrist and was also considerably bruised.

Mr. Brodie was a man about thirty-eight or forty years of age and leaves a wife and family. He resided on Twenty-sixth street, near Spring alley. The remains, by order of Chief Engineer White, were conveyed to his late residence in a fire department wagon. Guthrie was conveyed on a stretcher to the Homeopathic Hospital. He boarded on Penn avenue, but his friends reside in Indiana County. McGumphy resides on Forty-seventh street, and was able to walk to the street cars.

Coroner Kelleher impaneled a jury, and after viewing the body of Brodie the inquest was adjourned until this evening.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health, makes the following mortuary report for the week ending April 24th, 1875: There were 88 deaths, of which 47 were colored persons. The social relations were: Married, 38; single, 33; widows, 4, and widowers 1. Nativity—Pittsburgh, 22; other parts United States, 11; England, 2; France 1, Germany, 7; Ireland, 6. Localities—City wards, 54; Mercy Hospital, 1; Pittsburgh Infirmary, 1; City Hospital, 1; Church Home, 1. The ages were: Under one year, 12; from one to two, 6; two to five, 9; five to ten, 4; fifteen to twenty, 1 twenty to thirty, 8; thirty to forty, 9; forty to fifty, 5; fifty to sixty, 4; sixty to seventy, 2; seventy to eighty, 2; eighty to ninety, 2; total, 58.

Causes of death—accident, street, 1; bronchitis, chronic, 1; bronchitis, capillary, 1; Bright's disease, chronic, 1; cancer of intestines, 1; cancer of liver, 1; cirrhosis of liver, 1; cerebro-spinal fever, 1; consumption, 11; convulsions, 6; diphtheria, 1; debility, 2; diarrhea, 2; enteritis, 1; fever, scarlet, 5; fever, puerperal 2; heart, disease not specified, 1; heart, valvular disease, 2; hemorrhage of umbilicus, 1; lungs, congestion of, 1; laryngitis, 1; meningitis 3; measles, 1; old age, 1; poison, opium, 1; premature birth, 1; pneumonia, 3; peritonitis, 1; scrofula, 1; small pox, 1; syphilis, congenital, 1; tabes mesenterica, 1; unknown, 1; total, 58.

A Strange Story of Forgotten Wealth.

A remarkable instance of lapse of memory was related at Dartmouth, England, a short time ago. A bedridden old woman, who had long been in receipt of outdoor relief, had lived in an extremely indigent and miserable condition, paying only sixpence a week for the attendance of a work man to wait on her. This woman had the curiosity to unlock and search a box in the old woman's room, and there found a bag containing one hundred sovereigns. A gentleman who had befriended the invalid was called in, and she declared her utter forgetfulness that any money was in her room. The relieving officer, however, has laid claim to the hoard of gold, with a view to the repayment to the guardians of the sum expended on the old woman's maintenance. She formerly kept a cider shop.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDN ^{d} April 28, 1875.

Local money matters are wearing a cheerful aspect as compared with the condition of affairs a month ago, and, if the elements of our cautiousness as spoken of yesterday can be overlooked, are as satisfactory as could be expected.

Owing to the limited amount of sales the balance of trade is somewhat against us, and exchange, in consequence, is rather scarce although commanding a premium, with increased sales of iron and other merchandise. This will soon disappear and Eastern funds will be more abundant than is desirable.

—A correspondent sends us the following inquiry: "Has a note drawn one or more days after sight the usual days of grace given on the other notes?" The term "after sight" is defined by an eminent legal authority to be equivalent to "after acceptance." So that a note drawn as above would never mature, and therefore would not have days of grace. Such a note must be presented to the maker for acceptance. If he accept, then the note has a definite time to run and at maturity is entitled to the usual three days of grace. If the maker refuse to accept, the presentation should be noted, the same as in case of a draft, which gives definite time to the obligation, and at maturity is entitled to three days' grace as in case of other notes. This is the English rule, and is accepted as the law in all commercial countries excepting in Russia. In those modern times days of grace are absurd and of no benefit to anyone, for no one ever thinks of paying a note before the three days have expired, and bankers in discounting paper always charge interest for the extra three days. The custom of allowing days of grace was established for the benefit of the drawee in former days when the means of communication and locomotion were limited and was intended to prevent the dishonor of bills where unavoidable delays occured. The custom varied in different countries from two to thirty days, but in this country three days is universally allowed, and reckoned exclusive of the day on which the till falls due.

The authority above quoted says "days of grace are allowed, whether the bill or note be made payable on a certain event, or at a certain day, or at a certain number of years, months, weeks, or days, after date or after sight, or at usance, or by instalments. But they are not allowed on bills or notes payable on demand."

Whether grace is allowed on bill or notes drawn payable *at sight* depends upon the statutes of the various States relating to that subject.

—On account of its patriotic parentage, we give to the new Washington city banking house a little gratuitous advertising. Its circular is as follows:

BANKING HOUSE OF SHERMAN & GRANT, }
1325 F STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., }
April 25, 1875.

We have this day opened an office for the transaction of a general banking and exchange business.

We buy and sell Government bonds, stocks, coin, municipal and District of Columbia securities, etc.

We receive deposits subject to check at sight, and allow interest on balances.

Collections made upon all points at lowest rates.

Exchange sold on England and the Continent.

Deposit accounts received.

Certificates of deposit issued and interest allowed by special arrangement.

Money loaned on approved security, and commercial paper negotiated.

Land warrants obtained.

Prompt and careful attention given to orders for investment securities.

JOHN SHERMAN, JR.
F. D. GRANT.

OFFICE OF TRADE & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, 44 BROAD STREET,
NEW YORK, April 27, 1875.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has been active and irregular. Considerable strength has been displayed in some shares which have hitherto been comparatively neglected. Transactions in Rock Island, New York Central and Hudson and Western Union have been large at advancing quotations.

There seems to be a disposition on the part of investors to put their money into securities of dividend paying stocks which has been exemplified in the active purchases of the stocks above named, and also Delaware & Hudson, New Jersey Central and D., L. & W.

We hear favorable reports concerning Canton, based upon the increase in the value of their property.

Concerning Pacific Mail we have to say that we have no reason to change our expressed convictions that the stock is being manipulated in the interest of the speculative Board this stock was depressed, with the evident intention of making further purchases for the Erie clique. Further movement is also materially correct, have, to our certain knowledge, been made to purchase the stock cheap.

Northwestern stocks have displayed considerable strength. We hear that they are being purchased by parties desirous of obtaining control of the road at the coming election.

Money continues easy.

Yours truly,

TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National bank, No. 16, Sixth street:

April 28, 1875.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Gold	115¾	115⅞	115⅞	115⅞	115⅞	115⅞
U. S. int. coup. '67	116¾	116¾	116¾	116¾	116¾	116¾
5-20's, 1862	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼
5-20's, 1864	120¼	120¼	120¼	120¼	120¼	120¼
5-20's, 1865	121¾	121¾	121¾	121¾	121¾	121¾
5-20's, 1865, new	120¾	120¾	120¾	120¾	120¾	120¾
5-20's, 1867	123	123	123	123	123	123
5-20's, 1867, registered	121⅞	121⅞	121⅞	121⅞	121⅞	121⅞
5-20's, 1868	122¾	122¾	122¾	122¾	122¾	122¾
10-40's, reg.	116	116	116	116	116	116
10-40's, coupons	116⅜	116⅜	116⅜	116⅜	116⅜	116⅜
6's, currency	127	127	127	127	127	127
New 5 per cents	115¾	115¾	115¾	115¾	115¾	115¾
Western Union Tel.	79¾	79⅞	80	79⅞	80¼	80¼
Quicksilver	19	19	19	19	19	19
Pacific Mail	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Adams	163	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Adams Express	104½	.....	.....	.....	.....	104¾
Wells-Fargo Express	95	.....	.....	.....	.....	95
American Express	64¾	.....	.....	.....	.....	64¾
United States Express	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
New York Central	105¼	105¼	.....	.....	105	105
Erie	30¾	30⅞	30⅞	30⅞	30⅞	30⅞
Michigan Central	74	75¼	75¼	75¼	74	74¼
Michigan Southern	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼
Illinois Central	104¾	104¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cleve. & Pittsburgh	93¼	93¼	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cleve. & Toledo	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾
Chicago & Northw'n	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do preferred	105½	105¾	106	105¾	106	106
Rock Island	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	97½
St. Paul, common	37¼	37¼	37¼	37¼	37¼	37¼
Do preferred	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾
Wabash, common	16	16⅛	15⅞	.....	15⅞	15⅞
Wabash, pref.	37½	.....	.....	.....	.....	37½
Ohio & Mississippi	27¾	27¾	27¾	.....	27¾	27¾
Union Pacific	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾
Harlem	126	.....	.....	.....	125	125
Hudson R. & St. Jos.	70	.....	.....	.....	.....	70
Iron Mountain	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ft. Wayne	94	.....	.....	.....	.....	94
Tennessee, old	.....	.....	69	.....	.....	70
Tennessee, new	.....	.....	69	.....	.....	70
South Carolinas, Ar't	.....	.....	32½	.....	.....	32½
South Carolina, July	.....	.....	32½	.....	.....	32½
Missouri 6's	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	100½

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	.....	.....
Reading, sales	36⅝	.....
United Co's. of N. Jersey	130	.....
Oil Creek, sales	9½	.....
Lehigh Valley	63¾	.....
Allegheny Valley, sales	35	.....
Central Trans. Co	44½	.....
Empire Trans. Co	.....	51
N. C. and St. Louis m. b	26¼	27

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
WEDNESDAY, April 28, 1875. }

Trade in wholesale circles was moderately improved to-day, a fair volume of wagon movement being reported in nearly all branches of business, with one or two exceptions, in which especial causes operate to prevent activity. Grain was limited to such trade as was required by the immediate consumptive demand only, owing to the uncertainty of prices, and the limited stock in first hands. Flour was active and firm under renewed reports of damages to the winter wheat. Hay was also in better demand, and we advance our quotations $1 00 per ton. Groceries were fairly active, with prices unchanged and a firmer tone noted in sugars. Provisions were steady with an active jobbing trade. Country produce was not quite so active as for some days past but a fair distribution of seasonable merchandise was reported at materially unchanged prices. Dry goods are moving freely, and are sold very firmly according to quotations. General merchandise is experiencing a brisk and satisfactory trade. Lumber is dull with a large stock both afloat and in the yards, while ice demand is light and wholly disproportioned to the supply. Hides and leather are quiet with a somewhat improved demand. Values are steady and generally unchanged in important respects, with one or two exceptions noted below.

A writer in the Chicago *Tribune* says that there are in store in that city 150 cargoes of spring wheat of 30,000 bushels each. This grain is depreciating in value at the rate of $2,000 per day, or $60,000 per month, from the one item of storage alone. The prices for the above in New York, and 15c above Liverpool, figuring through freight at the unprecedently low rate of 45c per 100 pounds. We may soon look for the stock in store to be added to at the rate of 100,000 to 150,000 bushels daily from Western points. In view of all this, as well as the fact that crop prospects upon both sides of the water look as promising (the lane and ery about damage to winter wheat to the contrary, notwithstanding) as at this season of the year, the question suggests itself, What is going to be done with it?

The New York *Journal of Commerce* of Friday last, in its financial article, says:

Among the up-town merchants trade is reported good, and there has been a decided improvement in the movement of the milder grades of staple. Down town there is an improved feeling, and a larger general trade has been done for some days. Shippers are buying wheat more freely, but are neglecting flour. Corn and oats have advanced under the small arrivals. The exporters are taking corn moderately, but there is good local business in it.

The following were the exports of the leading articles of produce from the four leading ports of the United States for the dates named:

	Week end'g April 24, 1875.	Week end'g April 17, 1875.	W'k end'g April 25, 1874.
Flour, bls	47,459	67,260	93,019
Wh't, bu	657,000	710,000	785,551
Corn, bu	767,612	455,099	1,182,573
Rye, bu	8,209	5,114	13,916
Pork, bls	2,920	5,114	6,537
Lard, lbs	1,732,168	4,408,390	7,219,377
Bacn, lbs	2,294,128	4,551,809	6,141,364

*From six points.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,075	Apples, bbls	112
Cheese, lbs	25	Wheat, bus	780
Oats, bus	700	Butter, pkgs	49
Bacon, pcs	1,200	Bacon, tcs	85
Potatoes, bus	545	Hay, bales	25

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	10,179	6,809	16,988
Apples, bbls	589	910	1,499
Cheese, lbs	72	236	308
Corn, bush	4,022	2,469	6,491
Wheat, bush	6,063	3,423	9,486
Barley, bush	7,267	4,933	11,200
Rye, bush	420	2,643	3,063
Oats, bush	11,953	20,009	31,962
Butter, pkgs	412	293	705
Bacon, pcs	3,750	4,781	8,531
Bacon, tcs	922	1,223	2,145
Potatoes, bush	12,623	5,944	18,617
Hay, bales	2,280	1,259	3,540

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator:

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—Receipts continue limited, the aggregate for the week ending to-day being only 32,267 bushels, against 30,487 bushels the previous week. Shipments also continue under the effect of a short supply, and the conflicting opinions as to the future of the market. Official figures show that Chicago elevators contain 3,970,180 bushels of wheat, 21,570,703 bushels of corn, 532,918 bushels of oats, 5,692 bushels of rye, and 61,277 bushels of barley, making a grand total of 6,591,778 bushels, against 6,655,723 bushels one week ago, and 9,491,862 bushels at this period last year.

In addition to the above, vessels in the harbor contain 81,000 bushels of wheat, 365,778 bushels of corn and 79,414 bushels of oats.

Milwaukee warehouses are stored with 1,315,814 bushels of wheat, 69,257 bushels of corn, 68,230 bushels of oats, 39,000 bushels of rye, 19,639 bushels of barley, and 28,714 bushels of malt.

Wheat—There is little or nothing doing in wheat in this market owing to the almost entire absence of offerings. Consequently quotations are difficult to make. Receipts are 2,423 bushels for the past week, against 4,063 bushels the previous week. The reports of damage to the winter wheat are still rife, and the best opinion seems to be current at present is that a considerable proportion of the winter wheat in Ohio and Indiana has been destroyed—say thirty to forty per cent. This will, of course, affect prices, but the very large stock of spring wheat now coming forward to Chicago, and thence to the seaboard, will partially counteract that cause. The fact as shown below, that the stock of both spring and winter wheat is such as to keep prices down to two-thirds of the average for the past few years is also significant. Still the advancing tendency of prices is not under all the circumstances unnatural, and while it is premature to assume indicating that the effect of the panic about white wheat is over, we may look for firm prices here. In the absence of quotations we quote nominally Kentucky and Michigan white at $1 25@1 27 per bushel; Ohio and Indiana do at 1 30@1 33; amber do at 1 27@1 30. Ohio and Pennsylvania red winter at 1 24@1 27. We note a sale of a small lot of Kentucky winter at $1 26 per bushel.

Corn—The demand for shelled is tolerably active at good prices, while ear is easier. Receipts for the week were 2,469 bushels against 4,022 bushels the previous week. Shipments only relatively much higher than at the corresponding dates, in 1873 and 1872, while only 26 of above the price of the same period in 1874. It is positively lower than oats, however, a reverse in relative values which will go to oats, is fifty per cent. more than for the same weight of corn. We quote shelled at 58@58c for yellow; 56@57c for high mixed; 52@53c for low mixed. Ear was in light supply and firm at 58@60 per bushel for yellow and 55@56c for mixed. We note sales of 1 car ear corn, yellow, at 52c, on track; 1 car do at 52½c on track; 1 car shelled some yellow and mixed, at 56c, delivered in sacks at 55c; 1 car do in elevator at 58c; and 1 car do at 56c; jobbing lots.

Oats—There was a somewhat easier feeling, and prices fell off slightly, the sales reported ranging mainly from 38@39c for the various grades. Receipts are increased being 20,009 bushels for the past week, against 11,953 bushels the previous week. We quote at 38@39c for yellow; 36@38c for high mixed; 32@35c for low mixed. Ear was in light supply and firm at 38@40c per bushel. We note sales of 1 car ear oats, yellow, at 38c, on track; 1 car do at 39c, on track; 1 car do at 38c, delivered in sacks at 38c; 1 car do in elevator at 38c; and 1 car do at 36c; jobbing lots.

Rye—Receipts are 2,643 bushels against 420 bushels the previous week. We quote at 70@72c per bushel; mixed 69@70c. We note sales of 1 car rye at 70c, on track; 1 car do at 70c, all in elevator; and a jobbing sale of 100 bushels in sacks at 72c.

Barley—There is nothing doing in barley, and quotations are entirely nominal. Receipts are 4,933 bushels for the week, against 7,267 bushels the preceding week, all consigned to brewers directly. Rye is firm, with receipts stimulated by the advance in prices to 2,500 bushels the past week, against 412 bushels the week previous. We quote at $1 18@1 20, and note a sale of 1 car at $1 20 per bushel.

Comparative Values of Grain—We give below a statement of the values of wheat, oats and corn compared with their values at corresponding dates for the past three years, from which it will be seen that the value of corn in the recent advance of 10@15c is much below the average of past years, while oats are relatively higher. The statement is for the dates corresponding with to-day as follows:

	1875.	1874.	1873.	1872.
Wh't, red	$1 27@1 30	$1 30@1 33	$1 38@1 40	$1 73@1 77
Wh't, wh't	1 26@1 35	1 60@1 65	1 36@1 42	1 74@1 80
Oats, bu	38@39c	32@33c	50@52c	50@52c
Corn, s'hd	58@58c	80@85	55@56	50@53c
Corn, ear	58@60c	80@85	55@56	57@59

FLOUR—The market continues very firm, and dealers look for further advances caused by damage to the winter wheat. Country millers are now holding at prices higher than for some days past, and refuse to make large purchases here. Receipts have decreased, being 6,809 bbls for the past week, against 10,179 bbls the preceding week. We quote at 500 bbls Ohio family at $5 00 per bbl. The following are the whole sale prices paid by the local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 25 @ 7 50; No. 1 amber and do $6 50; red winter wheat flour $6 10; in sacks 35c off per bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers are strong and firm at $7 50@8 25 for Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $7 00@7 25. Wisconsin $6 25@6 50; choice white winter wheat flour $6 25; rye flour $6 00; Graham flour $5 75@6 00; self-raising flour, in 5 pound boxes, $2 50 per dozen; 10 pound bags $4 50; oatmeal $8 00@8 25.

HAY—Receipts for the past week were limited, being 2,280 bales, against 2,280 bales the preceding week. The market is firmer and prices are from $1 00 to $2 per ton above last week. We note sales of 1 car timothy on track at $22 00; 1 car do at $23 00; 1 car packing do at $13 00; 1 car do at $14 00; 1 car do at $23 00. We quote prime timothy, on track, at $22@23 per ton; No. 2 do $19 00@20 00; upland prairie $16 00@17 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $25 00@24 00. Loose hay is selling at $25@26 00 per ton; straw is quoted at $20 per ton. Straw is quoted at $16 00@18 00 per ton.

MILL FEED—Bran is steady at $1 20@1 25 ₱ cwt; shorts $1 25@1 35 ₱ cwt; middlings $1 40@1 50 ₱ cwt; chopped feed $1 55@1 65 ₱ cwt; oil meal $1 90@2 00 ₱ cwt.

MALT—There is little doing. We quote at $1 33@1 36 per bushel; and note a sale of 1 car at $1 35 per bushel.

Country Produce.

APPLES—Receipts have increased somewhat, being 910 barrels the past week against 589 barrels the previous week. The weather is favorable good for choice, while medium grades are depressed. The prospects for a crop are coming season are hardly decided yet, although it is feared that it will be a short one. We quote at $3 25@3 50 for choice sound fruit; $2 50@3 medium grades are in little request and neglected at $2 00@2 50 for prime; common $1 00@1 75.

APPLE BUTTER—There is a dull market, and prices are easy. We quote at 7@8c ₱ gallon in kegs, for prime; 4½@5c for common.

BEANS—There is a quiet market at unchanged prices. We quote Lima at 8½@9c ₱ lb; $1 90@2 00 ₱ bushel; medium $1 85@1 90; fair, to good $1 80@1 90.

BUTTER—Receipts have decreased during the past week, having been 296 packages against 412 packages the previous week. The quality of the receipts, however improved, and the choice grades were a little easier yesterday and to-day, although still the active demand. Choice dairy, new, readily brought 34@35c; choice roll is 28@30c; common to medium grades are in heavy supply, and are comparatively worthless; at a range of 14@20c.

CHEESE—Prime to choice new is quoted at 10@12c ₱ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 12@13c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—Receipts continue light, being only 208 boxes for the past two weeks. The stock in first hands is working off quite freely and briskly at unchanged quotations, viz.: Ohio Goshen 17@17½c; Sweitzer 16@17c ₱ lb; Limburger dull at 12@14c. The new cheese is coming in in small quantities and sells at a range of 6@14c, the new cheese being more or less skimmed: prime new cheese readily brings 12½@14c.

EGGS—The market is unchanged with a liberal supply. We quote at 15@16c ₱ dozen for strictly fresh.

HONEY—The market rules at $1 50 ₱ barrel.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₱ lb, 55@60c for round lots; 65@70c in a jobbing way: No. 2, ₱ lb, 30@35c.

HINCE MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ lb in a jobbing way.

MAPLE SUGAR—Maple sugar is sold at 14c ₱ lb for choice cakes; medium loose 11@12c; maple syrup in gallon jugs sells at $1 00@1 10 ₱ gallon: in kegs $1 00@1 05; in barrels 95c@$1 00. The stock of maple sweets is liberal, and the market is quiet.

POTATOES—The market continues active with a good demand. Receipts are large, being 12,623 bushels against 5,944 bushels the past week, and over 20,000 bushels the previous week. Prices are firm and fully maintained. We quote at $1 10 ₱ bushel for jobbing lots from store: Peerless $1 05 ₱ bushel; other grades 95c @1 00 ₱ bushel. Sales on track were active at 90@$1 05 ₱ bushel; jobbing lots 95@$1 00 for Peerless.

PEARINGS AND DRIED FRUITS—We quote dried apples at 6½@7½c ₱ lb; dried blackberries are easy at 8@9c ₱ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 8½@9½c ₱ lb; dried pears, 6@7c. Honey is in large supply at 24@28c ₱ lb for clover honey in the comb. Cucumber pickles are quoted at $3 00 ₱ barrel; $1 00 ₱ half barrel.

SEEDS—Clover seed is scarce and in demand, quotable at $7 50@8 25 ₱ bushel in jobbing way. Timothy seed quiet at $2 50@2 70 in round lots; $2 75@2 90 in a jobbing way. Flax seed quoted at $1 95@2 00; crushed and ground flax seed, $2 00 ₱ bushel: blue grass do $2 50; red-top do $2 00. Onion sets are in demand at $8 00@8 50 ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—The market is dull and there are few sales. We quote at 30c in a jobbing way at 13@16c ₱ gallon for prime; interior 10@12c.

VEGETABLES—We quote green peas at $2 15@2 20 ₱ bushel. Beans sell at $3 20@3 50 ₱ barrel.

Provisions.

The market continues active, with a good jobbing demand and steady prices. The receipts for the past week were liberal, being 4,781 pieces and 924 tierces, estimated at 650,788 pounds.

BACON—Market strong. We quote shoulders at 10¾c ₱ lb; rib sides are quoted at 13¾c; clear rib sides 13½c; clear sides 14c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar cured new at 14c ₱ lb; canvassed do 14½c. Sugar cured shoulders at 11c ₱ lb; do cured new 12c. Pickled bacon is quoted at 11c do canvassed 11½c; dried beef—sugar cured 15c; canvassed 15½c; beef tongues, ₱ dozen ₱ ham sausage 10c.

MESS PORK—The market is firm. We quote at $24 00 ₱ bbl.

LARD—Is firm and higher. We quote primo in tierces, ₱ lb, 10¾c; half bbls do 11¼c; in kegs 11½c; do fancy leaf 12c; refined for York, and 15c above Liverpool, figuring through freight at the unprecedently low rate of 45c per 100 pounds. We may soon look for the stock in store to be added to at the rate of 100,000 to 150,000 bushels daily from Western points. In view of all this, as well as the fact that crop prospects upon both sides of the water look as promising (the lane and ery about damage to winter wheat to the contrary, notwithstanding) as at this season of the year, the question suggests itself, What is going to be done with it?

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1875.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The publishers of our ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, in the East, having discontinued its publication, we shall be unable to furnish it to subscribers hereafter. We ask the indulgence of our patrons, in this matter, for the reason that the failure is wholly beyond our control.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLASS believes that the decrease in internal revenue receipts is due to the fact that the amount of whisky withdrawn from bond has greatly diminished since the passage of the new law.

DISCOVERIES of gold and silver ore are reported from nearly all parts of the country. A subsoil plow, however, is perhaps as good an implement as any that can be used in getting directly at those metals.

IT IS thought at Washington that the recent visit of the Papal envoys to that city may have had some connection with the selection of a suitable location for the Holy See, and that if the Pope should ever leave Italy he will locate there.

THE Kentucky papers now say that the cold snap did not kill the tobacco plants, as it was at first feared it did, and now the Western New York papers say that the fruit in that region was not forward enough to be injured. We shall find, after all, that the injury done was not so general as it at first appeared.

HON. C. C. COLE, one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Iowa, a strict temperance man, and who has heretofore been a very ardent advocate of prohibitory liquor laws, now states that a more thorough investigation of the subject has convinced him that such laws cannot be enforced, and consequently should not be enacted.

AN IMPORTANT decision has just been rendered by the New York Court of Appeals, to the effect that national banks are not responsible for deposits for safe keeping. Any one who places United States bonds or valuables of any kind in the keeping of these institutions, does so at his own risk, and cannot recover in case of their loss by theft or otherwise.

THE United States Centennial Commission is about to appoint a committee of eminent citizens of Philadelphia to consider the best means of providing accommodations for the hundreds of thousands of visitors who are expected at the exhibition. This is a matter of very great importance, and one which has been neglected too long, already.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Cincinnati *Gazette* says that April, 1857, was as cold as this April; snow having fallen on the 17th, 19th and 22d, and the thermometer having been below the freezing point nearly all the month. There had not been, however, any preceding warm weather, to bring the fruit forward, so that no injury was done to the fruit by the cold, that year.

THE ground at present occupied by Rev. Dr. HALL'S Presbyterian church, corner of Fifth avenue and Nineteenth street, New York, was sold at auction on Tuesday. The property is considered very choice, and the sale attracted a large attendance of capitalists, speculators and others. The lot sold for the extremely low price of $240,000. In flush times it would have brought half a million.

THE site, valued at half a million, on which is built the new Roman Catholic Cathedral, in New York, where the ceremony of investing Cardinal MCCLOSKEY with the insignia of his office, to-morrow, will take place, was obtained without a dollar of outlay. It was owned by the city, and was granted by Tweed and the Ring as a bribe for that political support which they required annually at the polls, and which enabled them to maintain their hold on the Treasury.

CALIFORNIA boasts that for the first three months of this year it has made a gain of 6,021 immigrants over the corresponding period of last year. No mention is made, however, of the number who have left the State in disappointment and disgust over the fraudulent representations with which they were gulled, nor of those unhappy dupes who are hanging on the ragged edge of starvation there, from sheer inability either to obtain work or to get back to the localities from which they suffered themselves to be beguiled.

THE statistics of our foreign trade for the month ended January 31, 1875, and for the seven months ended at the same date, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1874, in an advance synopsis of which has been furnished us by the Chief of the Bureau, show that, allowing for the difference in the warehouse accounts, the difference in the exports for the seven months ended January 31, 1875, exceeded the imports by $32,577,689, while for the corresponding period of 1874 the excess of exports over imports was $22,655,899.

THE United States Circuit Court of New York has just decided that an assignee in bankruptcy competent to act as his own attorney, or to perform other services necessary to discharge of his official functions, is not entitled to extra compensation for such action or performance; and that a solicitor of a petitioning creditor in involuntary bankruptcy cases is entitled to receive from the bankrupt estate only the amount of his disbursements, he having no valid claim on the estate for his counsel fees. These rulings are of general interest and importance.

THE panic has apparently had but little effect in diminishing the amount of our borrowing in Europe. The New York *Bulletin* reports the amounts to be paid this month on account of subscriptions to American loans, at £1,747,750, against £1,-919,900 for the corresponding month of last year. The total amounts paid thus far during the present year, somewhat exceed those for the same period of 1874, and they show that we are borrowing ninety-five million dollars in gold a year. The negotiations are now almost exclusively confined to loans to our oldest and most reliable corporations.

WE DO not give much heed to the reports that the winter wheat has been injured by the late cold weather. Wheat that has passed through the bitter cold of a terribly severe winter is not likely to be injured by a few days' frost in April. The young shoots sent up by the plants during the favorable weather which preceded the spring frosts may have been nipped to some extent, but the plant is hardy, and will send up new shoots as soon as it gets a good chance. The injury wrought by the cold weather is bad enough, and there is no need for making it look worse than it really is.

WE COMMEND the following remarks, from the Boston *Daily News*, to those of our people who are continually decrying the men of the present time, and longing for a return to "the good old days:"

"The history of the early days is as full of pettiness as the present time. The jealousies of military and political leaders were as mean and marked. Men's lives were as uneleanly, their souls as filled with envy as now-a-days. Philip Freneau was as ready to defame the sublime Washington as Dana and Reid are in these hours to assail President Grant. John Adams thought Jefferson a political scoundrel, and Alexander Hamilton was vilely lampooned. Yet there was honest purpose, if violent prejudices, and we may learn to avoid the latter and imitate the former, if we study the past with open eye, and candid, unconvicted minds."

ACCORDING to all accounts, the West to-day is in a healthier condition than ever before, and is now going ahead by natural processes and not by any speculating craze. From nearly every point of it come favorable accounts of the present country trade and of prospects of future prosperity. Much of this is especially the case in Western Iowa and and the Missouri Valley generally. At Omaha the merchants say they have never seen so much money in the hands of the farmers. More and better agricultural implements and machines are being sold this spring than ever before. At Kansas City, too, there has been all the spring an increase of orders from Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado for provisions, agricultural implements and seed grain. All these facts indicate an increase of population, industry and wealth in the regions named.

WHILE, as a general rule, the Southern Democracy preserve prudential silence over certain questions, such as the negro, State sovereignty and secession, now and then an organ, more ingenuous and open than the rest, blurts straight out the silent intent and purpose held in common by nearly all. Here is a paragraph from a leading paper of Georgia, in that frank vein:

"In 1872, when the Democracy at Baltimore adopted a Republican platform and started out in the campaign with an acquiescence in the results of the infamies of reconstruction, pledging the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments as a finality upon the questions settled by them, the party was stultified, and the stultification excited the most intense disgust in the Democratic party, and shattered its forces in the very face of the enemy. False leaders will again entrap us if we do not watch."

The continued existence and supremacy of the Republican party is as imperative a national necessity now, as it was ten years ago; unless, indeed, the country is prepared to jeopardize every principle and interest supposed to have been established by the results of the war.

COUNTRY ROADS.

We referred, not long since, to the extremely bad condition of our country roads, generally, and to the fact that hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually spent upon them without improving their condition a whit; and we are tempted to recur to them as well by the words of indorsement we have received from various quarters, as by a little paragraph which has just caught our eye in the annual report of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. "We are constantly advocating better roads and pavements," that report says, "that the animals who are forced to travel over them may be relieved."

Here, then, is a new argument, which appeals to every man who likes the animals he owns, and uses as beasts of burden. "The merciful man is merciful to his beast," and the men who are doomed to use our country roads are, as a class, merciful men. They are all attached to the dumb animals who splash through the mud of the worst roads in the world and toil and struggle with the loads that are made doubly burdensome by the terrible condition of the ruts and holes through which they have to be pulled. The poor beasts are objects of a genuine pity. If the trouble could not be remedied there would be less cause for such sympathy; but the commonness of that bad roads can be remedied must add to the regret which every man must feel as he sees the animals he loves compelled to endure a toil which could so easily be lessened.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals calls out for better roads, not for the sake of good roads considered abstractly, but for the sake of the animals who traverse them. We are glad to have its co-operation, and to enlist the suffering animals upon our side, through the pity which their owners feel for them; but we cry out for a change upon the higher ground of true economy and public conscience. The roads, we fear, will never be made good for the mere sake of easing the labor of the animals driven over them; but we trust to live to see the day when the money raised for road purposes in this State will be applied intelligently, and in such a way as to make transit over our rural thoroughfares not only safe, but easy and comfortable.

The first thing to be done is to establish some general road system, which shall be uniform wherever uniformity is practicable. At present we have nearly as many special laws as we have townships. One township has four supervisors; another has two; another but one; and while in one township the roads are given out to the lowest bidder to be kept in repair for a year, in the adjoining township the supervisors do whatever repairing is done.

The second thing to be done is to get rid of the humbug of working out taxes on the roads. In such counties as Allegheny, at least, the practice of gathering together a dozen or two farmers, who loaf the day away, and walk over the roads, throwing up a shovelful of dirt here and removing a stone there, is too antiquated to be persisted in. It does duty as a mask for good; and it deludes the community with the idea that a thousand dollars or two have been profitably expended upon the highways.

And a third thing to do is to devise some general plan by which the roads that are traveled most may be put in substantial condition at the cost of those who are directly benefited by them. In this way the main thoroughfares through the country may be made good and kept so. Those old and familiar highways known as the Brownsville pike, the old Washington road, the Washington and Steubenville pikes, the Greensburg pike, the Butler road, and various other leading roads in this county, might all, at a not extravagant expense, be thoroughly macadamized. The first cost, judiciously assessed, would not fall heavily upon any one, and the cost of maintaining them, afterwards, would be reduced to the minimum. The side roads, which are not so much used, might be kept up under the present plan with the modifications we have suggested, and the road tax would be much less burdensome than it is now.

We are now annually throwing away a million of dollars, in this State, in a vain and delusive attempt to maintain good roads. We spend the money, but our roads are still the horror and aversion of all who are condemned to use them. The same amount of money, judiciously expended, would, in ten years from now, give us good, solid, macadamized roads, at least over the main routes of country travel and traffic. Shall we, then, go on squandering this million yearly, to no good whatever, or shall we stop, look over the ground, count the cost, and see if some system cannot be devised under which whatever money may be raised for road purposes shall be applied systematically and effectively? We put it to our country friends, and ask them if they are not tired of a system that was framed, originally, for an unsettled country, and is totally unfit for our present needs? The next Legislature will be asked to legislate upon this subject; and the way to secure wise legislation from it, is to think it all over beforehand, and put our conclusions into some practicable shape.

THE COAL TROUBLES.

There is a very general disposition, in discussing the troubles between the miners and the operators in the anthracite region, to lay all the blame upon the miners; but we notice, here and there, instances of doubt upon that head. When the trouble first occurred, we called attention to a statement of one who was familiar with all the facts in the case, that the reduction in wages demanded by the Reading Coal and Iron Company (which is the principal organization among the operators) would not, if acceded to by the miners, increase the price of coal to consumers more than from twelve to fifteen cents a ton. To the miner the reduction is considerable; while to the consumer it amounts to very little. The reduction, therefore, was not and is not insisted upon for the sake of securing cheap coal to consumers; but was intended more probably to increase the profits of the carrying companies, who could add the amount of the reduction to the carrying rate, and so leave the price of coal unchanged to the consumer. The Philadelphia *Press* is consequently driven to inquire whether the miners are, for the long run, the gainers by the creation of great coal monopolies, such as control the coal trade of Philadelphia. It is a very suggestive inquiry; and we append the article from that paper on that subject as an indication that we are beginning to get down to hard-pan, that is to fundamental principles, in that matter, as well as in financial affairs:

[From the Philadelphia *Press* of Thursday, April 22.]

The present disturbances in the anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania are fraught with much that is beyond the mere issue of wages, and will be apt to start the question whether the country is most benefited by private or corporate enterprise. Thirty years ago, before we had the vast railroad facilities which now gridiron all parts of the State and country, the price of coal was two-thirds less than it is now, with labor then certainly not more than one-half less. In 1859 coal which now brings $7 per ton at the yards was sold for $2 75, or at most at $3 per ton in the interior towns of the State, and at $4 and $5 in Philadelphia. These are figures given from the memory of housekeepers. When coal was carried to market by horse power, before we had the railroads to take it there, its cheapness then would seem to argue that it is of more benefit to depend on horseflesh than on steam to transport the article. To be sure, railroad enterprise has vastly stimulated the consumption of coal, but the source of supply is so great, and the means of mining it so extensive, that at least for a century there can be no such exhaustion of its deposit as now threatens England. When the retail sale of coal was confined to private enterprise, instead of being conducted by corporate combinations, there was always a fluctuation in its price, the figures being generally kept within reasonable bounds, and the supply steady. The steadiness of this supply was due to the fact that individual operators owned or leased the mines, so that in the production of coal there was competition at every drift, as well as in all the retail yards. If a drift or level selling at retail found that he was not receiving as good an article as he desired for his customers, he had a hundred sources where to remedy himself, and could command accommodations in all directions. Now there are few choices in the market, one vast organization having covered the anthracite region. There has been serious trouble in the mining regions ever since the railroad combinations which now rule there were attained. We desire to be impartial in the expression of fact, and we think the business community has not failed to observe the truth of what we record.

The cost to manufacturing by delay, the cost to labor in the loss of wages, the risks to local merchandising by the sudden withdrawal of revenues, and the expense to the State in military demonstrations, make up a sum total which may well appal the contemplation of the political economist. The item of expense in State appropriations to put down riot seems destined to be regular, and must be charged to the consumer of coal. The demoralizing effects of these armed demonstrations are not the least of the injuries inflicted on the body politic, because the moment a government is familiarized in the use of its military power to uphold its civil authority, it is afforded genuine temptation to be arrogant and overbearing, and is immediately inclined to encroach upon the inherent rights of the people. In the present case the necessity for calling out the troops was urgent, and the Governor is entitled to the thanks of the Commonwealth for his prompt and resolute action, but, nevertheless, even the remedy is deplorable.

Let us be understood; we do not assume to be umpire in this business. We only report facts, that all concerned may be led to reflection, and proceed to remedy the evils which are within their own reach, and thus wrong in all directions in this connection will be avoided.

THE mercantile agency of DUNN & BARLOW have just issued a statement of the business failures which have taken place in the country during the first three months of the present year. These statistics have heretofore been presented only at the end of the year. The returns of Maine and New Hampshire are included in the Massachusetts statement:

States.	Failures.	Liabilities
Alabama	15	$336,000
Arkansas	2	27,000
California	61	670,971
Connecticut	41	247,761
Delaware	5	65,000
District of Columbia	5	28,851
Florida	4	180,000
Georgia	40	1,057,376
Illinois	93	2,383,098
Indiana	84	1,661,340
Iowa	44	376,855
Kansas	19	83,300
Kentucky	38	1,195,000
Louisiana	6	500,831
Maryland	44	780,473
Massachusetts	113	3,514,000
Michigan	61	811,041
Minnesota	33	230,000
Mississippi	57	416,830
Missouri	65	1,109,550
Nebraska	16	120,000
New Jersey	19	81,750
New York	152	2,894,592
New York city	197	8,430,500
North Carolina	16	122,000
Ohio	73	1,187,15-
Pennsylvania	155	4,927,000
Rhode Island	21	476,300
South Carolina	61	989,250
Tennessee	23	143,765
Territories	32	546,732
Texas	6	690,000
Vermont	7	31,200
Virginia and W. Virginia	47	642,755
Wisconsin	57	419,384
Total	1,733	38,873,226

Accurate comparison of these figures with returns for the same months in previous years is impossible, owing to the absence of previous quarterly reports, but dividing by four the number of failures for the entire twelve months of previous years, the following result shows a comparison sufficiently near the mark for all practical purposes:

	Failures for year.	For quarter	Liabilities for year.	One quarter of same.
1872..	4,067	1,017	$ 121,056,000	$30,264,000
1873..	5,183	1,295	228,499,200	57,124,800
1874..	5,820	1,457	155,239,000	38,809,000
1875..1st quar		1,733	1st quar'r	38,873,000

From the above it will be seen that thus far in 1875 the failures have not been largely in excess of previous years, while the amount of liabilities shows no increase whatever above the average of years. Considering the continued depression in numerous interests, the exceeding severity of the winter, and the lateness of spring, the conclusion is encouraging. It was by no means expected that numerous wrecks from the panic of 1873 would be discovered long after the storm had passed, and probably not a few of the above failures can thus be characterized.

WE HAVE received a circular setting forth the political creed of an alleged secret organization called the "Holy League of the Peers of America." The circular claims that the society has existed for several generations as a secret social organization, and is now about to enlarge its sphere of operations by becoming a political organization whose mission it shall be to set the affairs of the country right, by co-operation with existing parties, where that is practicable, and independently if necessary. In its declaration of principles it asserts that the heresy of State rights is opposed to national supremacy; that treason and rebellion shall be punished by death and confiscation of property; that all men shall be equal before the law, and that the Monroe doctrine shall have universal application. It also declares its opposition to all churches, religions, and sects acknowledging in temporal matters allegiance outside the country, or owing allegiance inconsistent with that due to the Government; but beyond this, unlimited religious liberty and toleration for every form of worship. The axiom, "in time of peace prepare for war," is to be observed by keeping the army and navy at all times on a war footing, as a menace to foreign foes and domestic traitors, while eternal enmity is expressed toward Communism and "all kindred anarchical abominations." It demands the disfranchisement of ignorance, crime and pauperism, declaims against excessive legislation and tinkering with the laws, declares against an elective judiciary, and insists upon the retention of capital punishment. The circular is mailed from New York, but the locality of the League is not given. We doubt the existence of any such organization.

HERE is a specimen of the highly patriotic manner in which Southern historians and educators teach the young idea how to shoot. It is a passage from a new "History of the United States, for Schools and Academies," prepared by Professor DERRY, of Augusta, Georgia, and designed for use in Southern educational institutions:

"Which are the most prosperous of the Southern States?"

"Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, Texas and North Carolina."

"To what do they owe their prosperity?"

"To the fact that the white population in those States is largely in excess of the negro population, and hence their State governments are entirely in the hands of the whites, the only race that ought ever to bear rule in this country."

"What is one of the most important measures of Grant's administration?"

"The adoption of the Fifteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution, which, like the Fourteenth amendment, was carried through by force and usurpation."

What does the Fifteenth amendment declare?"

"It declares that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

"What more can you say of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments?"

"They have served to keep alive a bitterness of feeling which but for them would have long since died out."

These are the precious maxims and principles which are every day carefully instilled into the minds of the young of the Southern States, by way, doubtless, of preparing them for the acceptance of the results of the war "in good faith."

THE Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* telegraphs as follows to that paper concerning the political prospects in Ohio:

"A high official here and native of Ohio, who has just returned from a visit to that State, gives a most encouraging report of the prospects for a Republican victory there in October. His political sagacity is undoubted, and he is willing to go upon record as a prophet of Republican success. He says there is a universal and deep-seated disgust among all classes of people with the two years of misrule under Democratic administration, and that the State would be safely carried for Republican ticket. The late Legislature was the most imbecile and corrupt that ever disgraced the State. In attempting to legislate in behalf of the party it only succeeded in bungling matters so as to make it odious, and the last days of the session were spent in undoing what it had done, and proving its own corruption. Even the Democratic press of the State was forced to denounce it as the worst Legislature that ever assembled. Governor Allen's administration, too, has been anything but popular. He has pursued an intensely partisan course in his appointments, making adherence to Bourbon principles the only condition of fitness. This policy has been carried out even in the charitable institutions, where superintendents of asylums, matrons, janitors and office boys have been removed to give place to political favorites. The result has been that more rascality and inefficiency have been witnessed in the public institutions in the last year than in the twenty previous years of Republican administration. The experiment with Democracy has satisfied the Republicans of Ohio that if they would save the name of the State from reproach they must regain the ascendancy this fall, and they are already alert, organized, and working harmoniously."

THE Polish press report continued defections among Roman Catholic congregations in Russian Poland, and the adoption by many of views of the Greek Church. The cause is said to be the promulgation of the dogmas of the Immaculate Conception and the infallibility of the Pope. These and other similar incidents call to mind the remark made by the Cardinal Prince Schwarzenberg: "This new doctrine will assuredly cause a great falling away from the Catholic Church."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Diphtheria caused forty-two deaths in New York last week.

The imposition of that red cap on Cardinal McCloskey will take place to-day.

How many of these spelling misses have tried to spell their mothers at the washtubs?

Boston has a "Whittier Machine Company." Did it manufacture those Centennial verses?

There are no signs as yet of the opening of navigation between the upper and the lower lakes.

Texas papers believe more cattle will be driven out of Western Texas this year than any previous year.

Archbishop Manning, of England, recently promoted Cardinal, is at the point of death and failing rapidly.

It is now reported that Canada, also, is to have a Cardinal. Better got the Pope over and be done with it.

Alex. Stephens says the next President of the United States is now a journalist. Wrong: We are not eligible.

Now the Kentucky papers are reporting that the bugs and worms are destroying the tobacco beds at a fearful rate.

The next meeting of the Institute of Mining Engineers will commence on Tuesday, May 25th, at Dover, N. J.

And now the cows have gone to thieving. A Kentucky bovine "hooked" a baby and carried it off on her horn, the other day.

Mexico proposes to introduce its sugars into our markets, claiming that it is fully equal to the Cuban sugar, if not superior.

The Supreme Lodge of the World, Knights of Pythias, will meet in Washington, D. C., on the third Tuesday in May.

"The Chipman lode," at Newburyport, Mass., has been sold, to New Yorkers and others, for $1,000,000. Essex's silver shines.

The first negro juryman in Wisconsin was empaneled last week. He was also made foreman of the jury on which he served.

Costly bungling. The annual loss resulting from transfers and transhipments of merchandise in New York is said to be $30,000,000.

"Is Brooklyn a London or Gomorrah?" was the subject of a New York preacher's discourse on Sunday. Betwixt and between, we fancy.

An interesting opinion. Beecher considers Webster the meanest man of his time, "because he lacked the governing sense of morality!"

Baltimore and Ohio Garrett thinks he is on the Presidential line. He will be "switched off" a long while before he realizes his aspirations.

All the ground upon which the city of Covington, Georgia, is built is claimed by a widow named Fretwell. She will probably fret well before she gets it.

The brain is evidently the safest place in which to hit some people. Carruth, the Vineland editor, is getting quite well again, spite of that bullet in his head.

A complimentary dinner is to be given to Carl Schurz in New York to-day. He leaves for Europe to-morrow. The ex-Senator is a successful diner-out.

The Russian project to transform war into an exchange of mutual benevolence has been badly hurt by England's objections, and is likely to be abandoned.

The New England shoe and leather industry intends to place itself on a good footing at the Centennial exhibition, and is pegging away industriously to that end.

The statement that the Pennsylvania Steel Company, of Harrisburg, had purchased the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad, is contradicted by authority.

Several cargoes of Spanish iron ores, suitable for the manufacture of Bessemer pig iron and spiegeleisen, are now on the New York and Philadelphia markets. They came as ballast.

A man who enlisted in the army in 1861, and has since been mourned as dead, has just made his appearance among his family in Stark, Maine. He was greeted as one risen stark from the dead.

Newark, New Jersey, disputes with Brooklyn her title of City of Churches, having 100 with a population of 125,000, while Brooklyn, with a population closely approaching half a million, has only 235. Better not boast, however. It may develop a scandal.

PERSONAL.

A soft-headed youth residing in Sangamon county, Illinois, has gone melancholy mad for love of Bessie Turner, brought on by reading her evidence in the Beecher trial.

A five-year-old girl of New Orleans had her hair cut a few days ago, and was seen digging a hole in the garden, and on being asked what she was doing, said: "I am planting this hair to make a little child grow."

George W. Woodward, ex-Chief Justice of this State, was so captivated with the excavations of Pompeii during a recent visit that he literally camped on the ground, having slept all night at the Hotel Diomede that he might rise early the next day.

A young man who had been discharged from employment in a Boston railroad office applied to be reinstated, the other day, and was told that his request would be granted, if he would get married. The officials immediately forgot the matter, but the young man soon returned with a girl, a justice of the peace happened to be on the spot, and he was restored to his position.

A sad fate hangs impending over that unfortunate Bohemian, John Hay. In an ungarded moment he threw himself away on one of Amasa Stone's two daughters, and his father-in-law's wealth bids fair to ruin him as a literary man, and it taking all the ambition for work out of him. Amasa Stone is a magnificent palace for his daughter and he proposes to bring his poor but talented son-in-law to his side. The gossips say that negotiations are on foot for purchasing the Cleveland *Herald* and placing Hay at the head of it.

Jane Grey Swisshelm, in a recent letter to the *Woman's Journal*, says the women of Central Pennsylvania marry at from sixteen to eighteen and at once begin to add to the population. She adds: "From that age until forty-five they average a baby every two years and a half—that is if they live so long. They seldom trouble a doctor about so small a matter as a birth, but some one of their number, who never saw a medical college but has furnished her quota, attends to mother and child, and death or serious mishap at such times is a rare occurrence."

At the Lexington celebration Major Wood, an octogenarian, decorated his house with an American and English flag blended, to show that the countries were united now. A party of roughs went to the house in the evening to tear down the English flag, when the Major took an old Tower musket and walking out of the house, said: "Fellows, I am aware of your mission. The first man of you that lays a hand on that flag or offers it the least indignity, is a dead man!" There was a pause. "Right about! march! begone!" added the grim old major, and the crowd went.

Repeal of the Local Option Law.

BROOKVILLE, April 21, 1875.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The repeal of the Local Option law was one of the greatest outrages, on the people of the counties voting in favor of local option, ever perpetrated by a legislative body. Such could only have been brought about by persuasive eloquence of that immense "pool" which the whisky ring has long boasted. Governor Hartranft, when he could find no constitutional objection to the bill, did just what he ought to have done, as I don't see on what principles he should have been asked to interpose his veto in the face of such a heavy vote in the Legislature for its repeal; for if the people see fit to elect dough-heads and purchasable men for their representatives, upon themselves rest the responsibilities and results, and not upon the Governor of the State.

The Democrats having done everything in their power to bring about this repeal, will now go to work to stir up the forces to carry the coming election for the purpose of drawing away from the Republican party a sufficient number of votes to place a Democratic Governor; but it is to be hoped that when such a thing is agitated, the true temperance people will repelit as they usually have for the subject when they could befall the cause of temperance or any other moral cause than the triumph of Democracy. There is no evil which that party has not espoused, and there is no good thing which it has not opposed, so let every lover of good order and every friend of temperance beware, for any agitation which has for its object the defeat of the Republican party on account of the repeal of local option must come either from the Democrats or some demagogue who expects to ride into office on this hobby.

No doubt there will be gin mills and rum holes opened out at every corner and every cross road, and whisky will seemingly have a triumph, but all the temperance people have to do is to be true to their principles and not be duped into helping the Democratic party into power, and all will be right.

A. P. H.

STATE NEWS.

Titusville is to have a Centennial tea party soon.

Philadelphia talks of abolishing the detective system.

A man is under arrest at Harrisburg for the larceny of a lot of bones.

A black bass weighing sixty pounds was caught at Pittston, recently.

A Philadelphia dry goods merchant has just received $25,000 life insurance on a bankrupt creditor.

John Bross, Esq., died at the residence of his son in Titusville, on the 23d inst., aged eighty-three years.

William Guldin, of Shoemakersville, Berks county, died suddenly on the 23d inst., of causes unknown.

At a Quakertown, Bucks county, spelling bee, irreconcilable was spelled "earwreckonsileabil." The speller still lives.

"Cataning" was the way it was spelled at an Oil City bee. Kittanning would scarcely recognize herself in that garb.

There were in port at Philadelphia on Saturday: Steamships, 10; ships, 13; barks, 49; brigs, 10; schooners, 48. Total, 130.

The new Methodist Episcopal church at Mineral Point, Cambria county, will be dedicated on the second Sunday in May.

An Oil City man has invented a new style of torpedo for exploding in oil wells, differing in design from anything yet patented in that line.

Gen. John P. Rankson has been appointed Major General of the Third Division Pennsylvania National Guard, *vice* Charles Prevost, resigned.

John Hann, of Monroe township, Bedford county, died on the 17th inst., only twenty days before the hundredth anniversary of his birth.

Josh Jordan, an old and respected citizen of South Union township, Fayette county, died on Tuesday, April 13th, 1875, aged seventy-seven years.

David Watson, of the Girard National Bank, Philadelphia, is the oldest bank clerk in active service in that city, he has attained his ninetieth year.

C. U. Hoffert, of Carlisle, fell from a ladder while hanging paper a few days ago, receiving internal injuries which caused his death on Tuesday last.

The York county court has ruled that no licenses will be granted to applicants who have been convicted of violating the License law within one year.

A portion of the old ship "Constitution" at Phœnixville, is being converted into canes. Andy Johnson should be presented with a "Constitution" cane.

There is some anxiety in parts of Lancaster county over the appearance among cattle of pleuro-pneumonia, which is quite prevalent, especially near Eden.

John Z. Heiner, clerk to the district Superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph in Philadelphia, is among the missing—a defaulter to the amount of $7,000.

A court martial is being held in Williamsport, trying Captain White on the charge of embezzlement. The officers and soldiers are in uniform, and the court sits with closed doors.

A man named Watson, who resided near Salem City, Cranberry township, swallowed a dose of poison on Monday last, mistaking it for medicine, which caused his heath in a few hours.

A man named Scott, the messenger of a Philadelphia bank, was robbed of several thousand dollars on Tuesday. The robbers seized him, and although he fought hard against him, he failed to escape *scot* free.

If a receiver is not appointed for the Wilmington and Reading Railroad by the 4th of May next, that portion of the road lying within Pennsylvania will be sold at Sheriff's sale.

George Scott, an employee in the Philadelphia Custom House, committed suicide on the 23d inst., by shooting himself. He was sixty-seven years old, and in good health and spirits when he took himself off.

Mrs. Mary Decker has just gained a verdict for $5,000 damages against the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad Company, for the killing of her husband, who was a locomotive engineer in the employ of the defendants.

One daughter of Michael Ross, the "founder and proprietor of the borough of Williamsport," is yet living—Ann, wife of Major Charles Ingham, residing in that thriving city. Mr. Ross died in 1819, in the sixtieth year of his age.

The lawyers of Erie have formed a Bar Association for the "elevation of the character of the members." "Bar" associations, generally, are of an "elevating" character; but no reference is had to organizations of the legal fraternity.

The Philadelphia *Times* accuses Donaldson, the balloonist, with having played a trick on the newspapers of Philadelphia, by landing away down in the wilds of Jersey, and telegraphing over an assumed name that he had been killed.

Charles Hagg, aged sixty-five years, committed suicide by cutting his throat, at his residence at Greshville, Berks county, on the 23d inst. Financial embarrassments, brought on by indorsing for his friends, was the cause.

Mr. J. D. Semple, of Hickory township, Mercer county, fell dead at his residence, near Hermitage, on Sabbath morning last. He had just arisen and dressed himself, apparently in his usual health. Apoplexy is the supposed cause.

A Chester county man is wearing a five dollar pair of boots, which were made in 1847. Their maker died soon after they were finished. It is not stated what killed him, but if all his customers were as easy on shoe leather as this one, it is only fair to suppose he died of starvation.

Mrs. Marion Finney, widow of the late Hon. Darwin A. Finney, of Meadville, was married at Chambersburg, on the evening of the 10th, to Governor Carstensen, of Denmark. They will sail for Copenhagen, their future residence, on the 28th inst.

Mas. Watterson, an old lady residing in Bairdstown, Indiana county, was badly butned a few days ago from her clothes catching while she was engaged in setting fire to some inflamable matter scraped together in the garden. Her condition is considered critical.

The intelligent compositor in the Williamsport *Sun* office is, undoubtedly, responsible for the statement that "it is well to remember that black bears cannot be caught in the Susquehanna river before the first of June next." And it is pretty certain that the editor wrote "black bass."

The Philadelphia *Ledger's* last tribute is in memory of the late lamented Thompson:

Death came at half-past nine o'clock,
And put out Thompson's candle.
Thank Heaven, that gives him rest at last
From Bill Nye's drivel.

The Reading *Times* of the 23d inst. says: Daniel Clark, a printer, from Boston, was found near the Washington street bridge this morning, about one o'clock, with both legs terribly mangled. He was engaged setting type in the *Times and Dispatch* composing room on Thursday afternoon, and to help his gait work he had a crutch, but, by the way, saying that he would leave for Philadelphia last night. It is supposed that one of his legs can be saved, but the other will have to be amputated. He is at the dispensary.

On Wednesday a verdict for $4,000 damages was obtained in Philadelphia by John Doyle and wife against Jesse Comfort, who, by reason of his neglect in failing to clean the snow off his sidewalk, occasioned Mrs. Doyle to fall and break her leg. Judge Biddle charged the jury that if they found from the evidence that the defendant allowed his pavement to be and remain in a dangerous condition by the accumulation of snow and ice, and that in consequence of his neglect the accident happened, he was responsible.

The *Valley Spirit* says: Some time ago we published an account of the burning to death of three children of Daniel B. Mellot, of Fulton county, who were left alone, locked in the house, while their parents were away spending the day. The house caught fire and the little ones were burned to death. Suspicion having been excited, the father was arrested and cleared on the order before the Fulton county court, in McConnellsburg, last week. The trial resulted in the acquittal of the accused, who is left to mourn the loss of his children at the hands of the crowd.

A correspondent of the Lancaster *Express* writes: In the local columns of the *Express* of Monday evening, I noticed an article headed "A Remarkable Family." You ask where is there another family can beat this? I answer, just here in Lancaster. This family also consisted of nine, three of whom are dead. Two brothers and four sisters are living, whose average age is eighty years. Their total is 480 years: Mrs. Elizabeth Hensel, 90; Jacob Myers, 84; Mrs. E. M. Zahm, 82; Miss Sally Myers, 80; Miss Catharine Myers, 78; Henry Myers, 71. All are Lancasterian born.

At Berlin, Somerset county, on Sunday morning last, a destructive fire occurred. The fine steam grist mill that was owned by Messrs. Myers & Cover, and which was four stories in height, caught fire from the engine room, and in less than an hour only smouldering embers marked the spot where it stood. All the machinery and a considerable quantity of grain in the building was also a prey to the devouring element, and the total loss to the owners will foot up at least $10,000. The main building of the tannery owned by Albert Heffley & Bro., also burned down, involving a loss to that firm of about $600. The proprietors of the grist mill hold insurance policies in the York and Lycoming companies of this State for $5,500, but Messrs. Heffley's property destroyed was uninsured.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says: Last summer a young man living in Lock Haven, in a moment of playfulness, twisted the arm of a young lady friend so severely as to cause the amputation of the arm to save the life of the sufferer. And now it is suggested that that playful young man should marry that one-armed girl as a punishment for his folly in injuring her for life. Now, that would be a punishment with a vengeance. Why, if that chap could cause the loss of an arm by a slight twist of the wrist, how long would it be before that woman would be a fit subject for a winding sheet? About the best punishment we can think of for this muscular individual is to turn him over to the Comanche Indians and let them use him as a target for rifle practice.

FROST WORK.

Reports from nearly all the counties of Western Pennsylvania are unfavorable, the peach, apple and other buds having been destroyed by the late freezing weather.

Reports from Ohio say that the peach crop will be a complete failure. In Michigan the same report is current. In the latter State the wheat crop is greatly injured. Apples generally promise a good yield.

The exact amount of damage done to the peaches in Delaware is not yet known, but reports from Wilmington are favorable, and some growers express the opinion that the crop is only slightly damaged. An examination of the germs is to be made within a few days, when it will be shown whether they are blackened or not. It may at least be estimated that half the crop has escaped.

If the reports from the neighborhood of Fortress Monroe are correct, then farewell for this season to all the early fruits and vegetables that we are used to getting from the lower Virginia peninsula. The blighting frosts have stricken the adolescent potatoes, crisped the tender shoots of the strawberry vines, frozen the early peas into nothingness, and created general desolation. Bare indeed will the Baltimore markets be if deprived of those tempting osculents which are wont to satiate the appetite with the spring yield. The worst of it, though, is that the farmers of the region are largely dependent upon these crops for their yearly earnings, and the deprivation is very serious to them.—*Baltimore American.*

The editor of the St. Louis *Democrat*, after a careful inspection of his Southern exchanges, reaches the conclusion that planting operations in the South are well under way, and that a greatly increased area will be devoted to corn this year without diminishing the area usually planted in cotton. Accounts from Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee and Georgia all agree in the statement that the average of cotton will be fully up to that of last year, while the average of corn, wheat and oats will be fully increased fifty to seventy-five per cent. This is especially true of corn, which has commanded so high a price that the profits of cotton plantations went largely for the purchase of corn and provisions, of which the Southern people are large consumers.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* says: The condition of the winter wheat in the West is a subject of much interest to many persons, and we have taken pains to obtain information from persons who have had opportunities for investigation and from our exchanges. The result is, so far as our information goes, that there has been considerable damage by winter killing, as it is called, but which might be more